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Welcome to Prague! We hope you enjoy your stay in the golden city. It might not seem all that golden now; February and March can be a bit dreary. The winter has been a strange one – no snow in Prague in January – maybe you'll get hit with a big one while you are here! Won't that be something? Luckily for winter sports enthusiasts, the mountains have snow. If you are looking for some of the white stuff – check our Regions section for tips on how to get to Liberec.

Back in Prague, there are some great exhibits on these months (think indoors, warm) so be sure to visit our Culture section beginning on page 7. We didn't forget the importance of staying well-sugared and caffeinated; visit our round-up of sweet cafes in this issue's Pocket Watch.

The Czech Republic held a census in 2011, and the numbers are coming out. Prague is up to a little over 1.2 million residents, one of the highest numbers on record. And there seems to be an overabundance of single men. That's right ladies; there are nearly 275,000 single men in Prague! Don't tell the stag groups...

Thanks for visiting and we hope to see you back soon!

Cover story



selling their wares.

From Old Town to Malá Strana, the best way to cross the Vltava River is via the legendary Charles Bridge. You won't be alone, for that you need to get up real early, or stay out real late - but you'll feel the history reverberating from the sculptures, admire the view to Prague Castle and of course enjoy the people watching and maybe a bit of shopping from the artisans

Europe In Your Pocket



It was a busy 2011 for *In Your Pocket*, with new guides published in **Bulgaria** (*Veliko Turnovo*), **Netherlands** (*Tilburg, Utrecht, Amsterdam and Sittard-Geelen*), in **Austria** (*Vienna*), in **Croatia** (*Sibenik*), in **Switzerland** (*Zurich*), **Slovenia** (*Posavje*) and in **Belarus** (*Minsk*); 2012 promises to deliver many more new *Pockets*.

The number of cities we cover has now climbed past **70**, and the number of *In Your Pocket* guides published each year is approaching an amazing **five million**. To keep up to date, *like In Your Pocket* on **Facebook** (facebook.com/inyourpocket) or follow us on **Twitter** (twitter.com/inyourpocket). You can also now follow our tips on **Foursquare** (foursquare.com/inyourpocket).

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ESSENTIAL CITY GUIDES

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Editor's note

The editorial content of In Your Pocket guides is independent from paid-for advertising. Sponsored listings are clearly marked as such. We welcome all readers' comments and suggestions. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information at the time of going to press and assume no responsibility for changes and errors.

Arriving by Plane

Praha Ruzyně Airport tel. (+420) 220 11 33 14, fax (+420) 235 35 09 22, www.prg.aero/en. Prague's airport is 20km from the city centre. A **taxi** to the town centre now costs around 600Kč even if you call a company to pick you up or talk to one of the representatives from reputable **AAA Radiotaxi** or **1.1.1. Radiocab taxi**. Don't pick one up from outside the terminal (click here for taxifirms). Alternatively, use the **ČEDAZ minibus** service (tel. 220 11 42 96, 05:30 - 21:30) that runs every half hour between the airport and Náměstí Republiky (F-2). Tickets cost 90Kč (including one piece of baggage, children under 10 free) and can be bought from the driver or from the booth in the arrival terminal. For an extra fee, ČEDAZ can also pick you up or drop you off at your hotel.

The cheapest way to get into town is on bus: **N°119** (2-8 minutes per hour between 04:18 and 00:10 with at least one wheelchair-friendly bus per hour) runs between the airport and the **Dejvická** metro station (Line A, green) in about 20 minutes. From Dejvická it is just five stops to Muzeum in the centre of town. **Bus N°100** whisks you to **Zličín** (metro Line B, yellow) from the airport in 13 minutes. There is a new **Airport Express (AE)** bus from **Holešovice** which runs every half an hour, whizzing you across the city in half an hour, whether you are arriving or departing. **Special fares** apply to this bus, tickets can only be bought from the driver and do not allow any transfers or other forms of transport. Tickets are 45/25Kč, dogs 25Kč and luggage is free. First & last buses from Holešovice 05:15 & 21:45, from the airport 04:40 & 21:10.

A 26Kč transport ticket (plus a 18Kč one for big bags) will get you all the way into town or to the airport on all public transport except the Airport Express. Tickets can be bought at the friendly transport information desk in both arrival halls (open 07:00 - 22:00) or from the coin-operated machine at the airport bus stop, but not from the driver. You need to **validate the ticket** (once for the whole trip) in the machines on board the bus. Prague's new **Terminal North 2** will allow for at least 4 million more passengers a year to travel into Prague with the ability to continue expansion. New bars, restaurants, shops and services ply their trade in this terminal which accommodates flights to and from **Schengen** countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Greece, Spain & Sweden). There is a **left luggage** facility at the airport which doesn't close and costs 60Kč per item per day.

Arriving by Train

Prague has two main railway stations. **Praha Hlavní nádraží** ('main station', tel. 224 61 52 49) is architecturally fabulous (in the Jugendstil tradition) although you won't know it until you exit its underground nightmare. However a massive reconstruction is now complete, and if you've been here before you'll see the obvious improvements. There is a tourist office (open 09:00 - 19:00. Sat, Sun 09:00 - 16:00) in the centre of the lower hall of the two levels. For your best money exchange deal, use the ATM on the far left of the lower hall. Train information can currently be found in the lower left of the hall as well as to the left of the middle passageway to the platforms. Left luggage (úschova) lockers are available. Getting to town involves one stop on the metro to Muzeum or a dangerous walk up busy Wilsonova. The second station, **Praha Holešovice** (tel. 224 61 58 65), is used by trains on the main Berlin - Prague - Vienna/Bratislava route. The small hall holds the ticket office (open 09:00 - 17:00, closed Sat, Sun), left luggage lockers, an internet café and several exchange and accommodation offices (open 06:00 - 23:00). It is three stops on the metro to Muzeum. There are two classes on international trains, and **prices** vary according to length of journey and class; expect to pay one third more for first class tickets.

Public Transport

Prague's public transport system (Dopravní podnik) is efficient, fast and reasonably clean. With three metro lines, 26 tram routes and 9 night trams you won't need the bus routes that avoid the centre. Keep in mind that the centre of Prague is easily accessible on foot.

Tickets, valid for all means of transport, can be purchased from the numerous vending machines at all metro stations, major tram stops and news stands. You always need to **validate your ticket** yourself by stamping it in the machines at metro entrances and on trams. The most common ticket is the **26Kč transfer ticket**, which is valid for 75 minutes after validating (90 minutes between 22:00 and 05:00, on weekends and public holidays). The **18Kč non-transfer ticket** is meant for tram rides under 20 minutes with no changes, or in the metro for up to 5 stations (changes allowed) from the departure station within 30 minutes. We suggest you save yourself time by buying a handful of these on arrival. If you're planning to stay a bit and explore, get the **one-day pass** (100Kč), a **three-day pass** (330Kč) or a **five-day pass** (500Kč). Children under 6 travel free; and tickets are half price up to 15 years old. Large pieces of luggage (including rucksacks) cost an extra 13Kč while dogs ride the rails for 26Kč. **Fines** for no validated tickets are 500Kč if paid on the spot or pay 1,000Kč later.

The funicular railway and night tram tickets are 26Kč.

Trams trundle around town every few minutes; useful lines are N°22 which runs from the centre up to the rear entrance of the castle, saving you the uphill walk and N°17 which runs along the river. The **metro** connects the two main train stations and Florenc bus station to the centre and runs up to just after midnight, after which the **night trams** (the warm mobile home to many a smelly tramp) take over, zipping in all directions from the Lazarská stop (H-5) every half hour. **Tram information** is on the red signs at each stop and is generally correct assuming of course that some worn out Škoda hasn't died on the tram lines.



Beware of Prague's ultra-professional **pickpockets**, especially on tram N°22 and in busy metro cars; consider waiting for the next train if it looks squeezed.

For more **information** visit Dopravní podnik's excellent website with English and German information on routes and schedules, at www.dpp.cz, or call tel. 222 62 37 77.

Travel Information Centre I-5, **Muzeum**, tel. (+420) 296 19 18 17 (07:00 - 21:00), www.dpp.cz. All you ever wanted to know about routes, tariffs, tickets, timetables, re-routings and service disruptions, maps and general information about Prague's bus, tram and metro system from friendly, multi-lingual folk. Apart from the airport offices, these are found at the metro stations. ▶ Open 07:00 - 21:00. Also at E-4, Můstek, Jungmannovo nám., open 07:00 - 18:00, closed Sat & Sun; Anděl, open 07:00 - 18:00, closed Sat & Sun; Prague Airport terminals 1 & 2, open 07:00 - 22:00.

CZ: A brief history

4th Century

The present day Czech Republic was populated by Celts and it was the Celtic Boii tribe who gave the country its Latin name, Boiohaemum (Bohemia).

6th Century

The first Slavs travel from the east to the Prague area.

7th Century

According to legend a princess named Libuše marries a ploughman and founds the Premysl dynasty. She prophesies that a great city will rise above the banks of the Vltava.

10th Century

Václav I, misleadingly later to be called the Good King Wenceslas in the Christmas carol, is murdered by his brother Boleslav. He becomes the country's patron saint and his feast day is celebrated on 28 Sept.

14th Century

In 1346 Charles IV is crowned King of Bohemia, and in 1348 he founds Charles University in Prague, the first university in the Holy Roman Empire. Prague becomes the largest city in Europe, with 40,000-50,000 inhabitants.

15th Century

On 6 July, 1415 the protestant reformer Jan Hus is burnt at the stake. He becomes a martyr for the nationalist and Protestant movement that adopts his name.

16th Century

In 1526 the Hapsburg Duke Ferdinand I is elected as King of Bohemia. The dynasty will rule the Czech lands until 1918.

20th Century

28 Oct, 1918 Following the defeat of Germany and Austria, the Empire dissolves into several national states and, Czechoslovakia finally becomes an independent republic. Tomáš Masaryk becomes its first president.

15 Mar, 1939 The Wehrmacht invades and turns the Czech lands and Moravia into a protectorate, while Slovakia becomes an independent fascist state.

5 May, 1945 The Prague Uprising. Five thousand die in four days of fierce fighting as the Czechs fight the Nazis for the city. Prague is finally liberated by the Soviets.

Feb 1948 Assisted by the Soviet Army, the Czech Communist party takes power. The country will remain under the Soviet sphere of influence until 1989.

Prague Spring 1968 Communist Party chairman Alexander Dubček makes efforts to establish "Socialism with a human face". This includes releasing political prisoners and relaxing press censorship. His liberal ideals are brutally repressed by the invasion of Warsaw pact troops on the night of **20 Aug, 1968**. In protest at the invasion 21 year old philosophy student Jan Palach sets himself alight on the steps of the National Museum.

17 Nov, 1989 The Velvet Revolution 200,000 people demand democracy in a demonstration in Wenceslas Square. As crowds swell, the government gives in, and in 1990 former dissident Václav Havel is elected head of state.

31 Dec, 1992 Dubbed The Velvet Divorce, Czechoslovakia divides into two independent states, Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

21st Century

Aug 2002 Floods devastate the country and cause chaos and millions of crowns of damage as the Vltava rises.

1 May, 2004 The Czech Republic joins the European Union.

January-June 2009 Czech Republic holds the EU presidency.

November 2009 Country celebrates 20 years post-Communism.

Arriving by Bus

Florenc Bus Station J-3, Praha 8, Křižíkova 4, tel. (+420) 900 14 44 44, www.idos.cz. Most international buses arrive at Prague's central Florenc bus station (Autobusová nádraží Praha Florenc, open 05:00 - 23:00). For information on bus times inquire at window N°8 (open 06:00 - 21:00). Alternatively, use the handy computer in front of window N°8 to search for your specific bus from the timetables online at the excellent www.idos.cz, which searches all forms of land transport. Window N°6 (open 05:30 - 20:00, Sat 07:00 - 19:00, Sun 09:00 - 19:30) sells tickets for the ever popular **Czech National Express** (Český Národní Expres) buses to Brno. The kiosk between window N°4 and 5 (open 07:00 - 18:00, Sat 07:00 - 15:00, Sun 08:30 - 15:30) is an **exchange** office and also sells public transport tickets, maps and guides.

Car rental

Avis I-3, Praha 1, Klimentská 46, tel. (+420) 221 85 12 25, fax (+420) 221 85 12 29, www.avis.cz. ▶ Open 08:00 - 18:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Budget E-1, Praha 1, nám. Curierových 5 (InterContinental Hotel), tel. (+420) 296 63 09 95, fax (+420) 222 31 95 95, www.budget.cz. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00. Airport office, tel. 220 11 32 53, open 08:00 - 22:00. Reservation centre tel. 235 32 57 13.

Taxis

City Taxi Zelený Pruh 52, Praha 4, tel. (+420) 257 25 72 57, www.citytaxi.cz. Another of the most reputable firms. Ordering by SMS is possible at tel. 777 25 72 57 but without a Czech mobile number, they usually don't send a cab. Now with a van for cargo transport.

YourTransfer s.r.o. tel. +420 776 779 775, go@your-transfer.cz. Settle into Prague nicely by arranging for YourTransfer to pick you up from the airport and deliver you quickly and easily to your hotel. English speaking drivers and air-conditioned cars ensure a smooth ride for you, your family, or even larger groups. They also arrange travel throughout the Czech Republic and Europe if you need some personal assistance getting around.



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Prague is something of a cultural Mecca, and not just because of the affordable tickets. There was always a lively tradition here (Mozart was celebrated as a hero in Prague while shunned in Vienna), and the influx of culture-hungry tourists in the past decade has led to an enormous variety of concerts. Tickets are best and easiest booked via the ticket agencies. Remember, going to the theatre or opera is still something of an event in Prague, and it's courteous to dress up when visiting.

Cinema

Aero Praha 3, Biskupcova 31, tel. (+420) 271 77 13 49, www.kinoaero.cz. A cool little arthouse cinema in Žižkov; tram N°9 to Biskupcova. ▶ Tickets 40 - 95Kč.

Lucerna I-4, Praha 1, Vodičkova 36, Mústek, tel. (+420) 224 21 69 72, www.multikino.cz. Apparently the longest-running cinema in Prague with Czech and English language films. A classic.

Palace Cinemas Slovanský Dům F-3, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 22, tel. (+420) 257 18 12 12, www.palacecinemas.cz. Popular city-centre multiplex, which is often the only cinema with English language versions of films other cinemas show dubbed. ▶ Tickets 159Kč, Wed 109Kč. Also at Letňany, Veselská 663; Nový Smíchov, Plzeňská 8; Park Hostivař, Švehlova 32.

Village Cinemas Anděl Praha 5, Radlická 1E, Mústek, tel. (+420) 251 11 51 11, www.villagecinemas.cz. Another cinema complex, this one has an European art house cinema and Gold Class, where you sit in armchairs and can eat and drink to your heart's content. ▶ Tickets 159Kč, Mon 109Kč. Also at Village Cinemas Černý most.

Concerts & Opera

Municipal House F-3, Praha 1, Nám. Republiky 5, tel. (+420) 222 00 21 21, www.obecni-dum.cz. Housing a variety of halls, the stunning Art Nouveau Obecní dům is the venue for many classical concerts. Outside, you'll always find dressed-up people selling tickets for the 'best of Mozart'-type shows, which can be great as they're usually well performed, and good for children too as they're not too long. ▶ Booking office open 10:00 - 18:00. Tickets 200 - 1,300Kč.

Tickets

Bohemia Ticket International F-3, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 16, tel. (+420) 224 21 50 31, www.ticketstbti.cz. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Sat 10:00 - 17:00, Sun 10:00 - 15:00. Also at (E-3) Praha 1, Malé nám.

Ticket Art I-4, Praha 1, Politických vězňů 9, tel. (+420) 222 89 75 52, www.ticket-art.cz. ▶ Open 09:00 - 17:00, Sat 10:00 - 14:00. Closed Sun.

Ticketpro E-3, Praha 1, Rytiřská 12, tel. (+420) 296 32 99 99, www.ticketpro.cz. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00.

Ticketstream I-6, Praha 2, Koubkova 8, tel. (+420) 224 26 30 49, www.ticketstream.cz. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun.

www.terariumpraha.cz



Starodubečská 36/10, Praha - Dubeč
Tel: +420 774 993 192



Stavovské divadlo (Estates Theatre) E-3, Praha 1, Ovocný trh 1, tel. (+420) 224 22 85 03, www.narodni-divadlo.cz. The first theatre to be built in Prague, and it was also here that Mozart's *Don Giovanni* made its debut to a rapturous Czech audience; the opera was destined to bomb in Vienna. ▶ Booking office open 10:00 - 18:00. Tickets 30 - 1,000Kč.

Karlín Music Theatre Praha 8, Křižíkova 10, tel. (+420) 221 86 87 77, objednavky@hdk.cz, www.hdk.cz. The theatre has a long history in the city; its first performance was the circus back in 1881. Fast forward to the floods of 2002 which saw the historic building practically destroyed. The theatre reopened in 2006 and has been hosting a string of popular musicals ever since. ▶ 230-700 Kč.


Folklore

Folklore Garden Na Zlíchově 18, tel. (+420) 724 33 43 40, info@folklorearden.cz, www.folklorearden.cz. Staying just a short time, but would like to experience something more Czech than Prague? Head over to Folklore Garden to meet traditional dancers and musicians. This piece of tranquility quite close to the center has an actual garden and an inside wooden house for dinner and performances. You'll enjoy a typical Czech meal with unlimited drinks while being entertained in a rustic environment. ▶ Open 20:00 - 22:30. (630 - 1180Kč).

Theatre

Divadlo Archa J-3, Praha 1, Na Poříčí 26, tel. (+420) 221 71 61 11, fax (+420) 221 716 666, www.archa-theatre.cz. Affectionately known as the "alternative National Theatre," Archa has done wonders for Prague's cultural scene. It's not necessarily an "English" theatre, however their eclectic line-up often transcends language barriers. Check their website - you never know what additional items of interest, including concerts, they'll have on tap. All shows at 20:00 unless otherwise listed ▶ Performances start at 20:00 unless stated otherwise.

Divadlo Hybernia F-3, Praha 1, nám. Republiky 4, tel. (+420) 221 41 94 12, www.divadlo-broadway.cz. Dating back to the reign of Charles IV, this building was recently refurbished and now provides a home to Golem, a musical of the Jewish legend, which plays daily with English subtitles. **NB** Rows 1-6 & 32-33 are not good for viewing the subtitles. ▶ Tickets 599 - 799Kč. Box office open 10:00 - 02:00. Performances at 19:00. 15:00 & 19:00 Sat & 15:00 Sun.

Divadlo Ponoc Praha 3, Husitská 24, ☎ Florenc, tel. (+420) 222 72 15 31, www.divadloponoc.cz. Prague's premier place for contemporary dance. The best companies play here, as well as lots of dance and movement festivals. If it's happening in the dance world locally or globally, you'll find it at Ponoc. Performances usually start at 20:00 and there's a bar open one hour prior to show time. ▶ 

Laterna Magika C-4, Praha 1, Národní 4, tel. (+420) 222 22 20 41, www.laterna.cz. Laterna Magika developed a new way of combining theatre, dance, music and film for the 1958 Brussels Expo, and was doing multi-media performances before the word even existed. All productions are visually orientated with no spoken Czech - ideal for foreigners. ▶ Performances start at 20:00. Tickets 735Kč.

National Theatre C-4, Praha 1, Národní třída 2, tel. (+420) 224 90 16 68, www.narodni-divadlo.cz. Prague's most beautiful riverside building hosts a wealth of performances, mostly concerts and opera. Find the booking office in the modernist glass building next door. ▶ Booking office open 10:00 - 18:00; Sat, Sun 10:00 - 12:30, 15:00 - 18:30.

Švandovo divadlo Praha 5, Štefánikova 57, tel. (+420) 234 65 11 11, www.svandovodivadlo.cz. Local and international plays, both classic and contemporary; always something interesting going on at Švandovo. They offer English subtitles on screens above the stage, so your best bet are seats in the balcony. Visit their website for other dramatic and occasionally musical interests.

February 2012

08.06 Wednesday - 29.02 Wednesday

Antonín Dvořák
B-3, Czech Music Museum, Praha 1, Karmelitská 4, ☎ Malostranská, tel. +420 257 25 77 77, c_muzeum_hudby@nm.cz, www.nm.cz. At the Czech Music Museum, a new exhibition on this famous Czech composer, on the 170th anniversary of his birth. A collection of personal belongings, correspondence, original scores and more are on display - plus an autographed copy of the New World Symphony No. 9. ▶ Open , Mon 13:00 - 18:00, Wed 10:00 - 20:00, Thu, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 18:00, Fri 09:00 - 18:00. Closed Tue. 120 CZK.

01.02 Wednesday - 29.02 Wednesday
Opera

I-5, State Opera House, Praha 1, Legerova 75, ☎ Muzeum, tel. +420 296 11 71 11, informace@opera.cz, www.opera.cz. All shows at 19:00

- The Magic Flute:** February 1, 22
- La traviata:** February 2, 11, 17
- Rusalka:** February 3
- Carmen:** February 5
- Il Trovatore:** February 8, 15
- Madama Butterfly:** February 10
- La Boheme:** February 12
- Rigoletto:** February 14
- Aida:** February 18
- Tosca:** February 23
- Barber of Seville:** February 29 ▶ 100-1150 CZK.

01.02 Wednesday - 28.02 Tuesday
Theatre

Off the map from G-6, Švandovo divadlo, Praha 5, Štefánikova 57, ☎ Anděl, tel. +420 234 65 11 11, info@svandovodivadlo.cz, www.svandovodivadlo.cz.

Švandovo offers English subtitles on screens above the stage, so your best bet are seats in the balcony, right side facing the stage. We've listed the plays going on in February, but visit their website for other dramatic and occasionally musical interests. All shows at 19:00.

- The Builders:** February 1, 10, 16, 28
- Gottland:** February 3, 9, 27
- The Art of Negative Thinking:** February 4, 13, 25
- The Boss of it All:** February 11
- Hedda Gabler:** February 17
- The Crystal Night:** February 20
- Money From Hitler:** February 22

02.02 Thursday - 24.02 Friday

Karlin Music Theatre
J-3, Praha 8, Křižíkova 10, ☎ Florenc, tel. +420 221 86 86 66, objednavky@hdk.cz, www.hdk.cz. Musicals with English subtitles. All shows at 19:00

- Curtains (Vražda za oponou):** February 2, 3
- Carmen:** February 9, 10
- Jesus Christ Superstar:** February 16, 17
- A Night at Karštejn (Noc na Karštejně):** February 24 ▶ 230-700 CZK.

04.02 Saturday - 26.02 Sunday

Ballet
Národní Divadlo, Praha 1, Ostrovní 1, ☎ Mústek, tel. +420 224 90 14 48, dotazy@narodni-divadlo.cz, www.narodni-divadlo.cz. Národní Divadlo. All shows at 19:00 unless otherwise listed

- Onegin:** February 4, 14:00 & 19:00
- Swan Lake:** February 9, 10, 16
- Cinderella:** February 26, 14:00 & 19:00
- The Estates Theatre, Praha 1, Ovocný trh** All shows at 19:00 unless otherwise listed

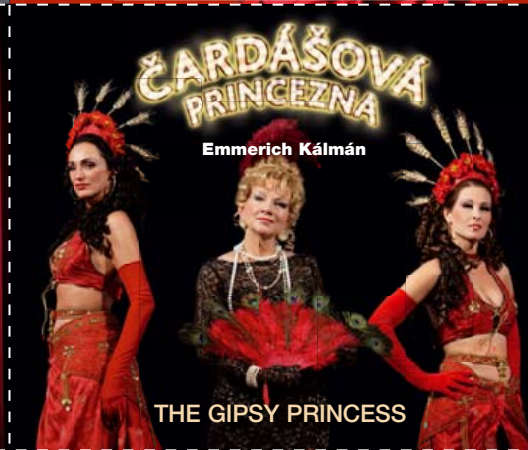
- Chamber dance evening:** February 12
- Goldilocks:** February 18, 14:00 & 16:00
- Ballet Mania:** February 22 ▶ 30-1050 CZK.

10.02 Friday - 21.02 Tuesday
Bohemian Carnevale

Various venues, tel. +420 220 51 42 39, info@carnevale.cz, www.carnevale.cz. Why be in Rio for Carnevale, when you could be in Prague. Okay, we don't really want you to answer that question - but organizers of Prague's masked celebrations want to pull you out of the winter doldrums. They do this by offering a week's worth of entertainment, including masked balls and concerts. The festivities culminate on February 21 with a variety of Fat Tuesday events including a lantern parade through town. For a complete program schedule and to purchase tickets visit www.carnevale.cz. **Where?** Various venues. For ticket info: 220 51 42 39 or ticket@carnevale.cz. ▶ 550-7200 CZK.

25.02 Saturday - 25.02 Saturday
Opera Ball in Prague

I-5, State Opera House, Praha 1, Legerova 75, ☎ Muzeum, tel. +420 724 29 12 37, office@c-b.cz, www.plesvopere.cz. The Opera Ball in Prague is not only your chance to waltz under the Neo-Rococo décor of the State Opera House, but also experience a variety of entertainment coordinated under the theme of Rudolf II, plus food and drink all evening long. It's a hodge-podge of entertainment and styles, but one that will most likely be the social and culture event of the season. ▶ 2000-7000 CZK.



Hudební divadlo
Karlín

ENGLISH SUBTITLES

www.hdk.cz

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Prague Philharmonia

With an average of 34 years, the musicians bring a youthful and inspiring take on the pieces conductor Jakub Hrůša has chosen to perform.

The Prague Philharmonia is based on a Viennese Classicism orchestra and music from that period forms the base of what they play. The Romantic era and the 20th century also make appearances in their repertoire, and the orchestra puts on a series of special modern and contemporary concerts every year as well.

The Prague Philharmonia will be travelling throughout March; first to Japan and then back to Europe for concerts in Landshut and Dachau in Germany. Then it is across the ocean again to the US; first to the Kennedy Center in Washington and then to New York's Bohemian National Hall. Finally, a stopover in Austria for two more concerts winds up the month.

More information: www.praguephilharmonia.com; Tel: +420 224 267 644, E-mail for tickets: svstuppenky@pkf.cz

February 7, 19:30: Voce Solo featuring Prague Modern with soloist Rosemary Hardy
Where: Prague Conservatory, Praha 1, Na Rejdišti 1

February 12, 15:00: Fairytales for Children
Where: Rudolfinum, Praha 1, nám. Jana Placha 1

February 20, 19:30: Afflatus Quintet
Where: Salon Paukert, Praha 1, Národní 17

February 22, 19:30: Orbis Pictus featuring the Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno
Where: Rudolfinum, Praha 1, nám. Jana Placha 1

February 26, 19:30: Prague Philharmonia, with Fumiaki Miura on violin
Where: Rudolfinum, Praha 1, nám. Jana Placha 1

01.03 Thursday - 16.03 Friday

Karlín Music Theatre

J-3, Praha 8, Křižkova 10, ☎ Florenc, tel. +420 221 86 86 66, objednavky@hdk.cz, www.hdk.cz. Musicals with English subtitles. All shows at 19:00

Curtains (Vražda za oponou): March 1, 2, 3
Jesus Christ Superstar: March 8, 9, 10
Carmen: March 15, 16 ▶ 230-700 CZK.

01.03 Thursday - 31.03 Saturday

Opera

I-5, State Opera House, Praha 1, Legerova 75, ☎ Muzeum, tel. +420 224 22 72 66, informace@opera.cz, www.opera.cz. All shows at 19:00

Carmen: March 1, 30
Tosca: March 2, 17, 23, 27
Il Trovatore: March 3
Otello: March 6
The Magic Flute: March 13
La Bohème: March 14, 24
La traviata: March 14
Aida: March 16, 31
Rusalka: March 18
Rigoletto: March 21
Madama Butterfly: March 22
Barber of Seville: March 28
Nabucco: March 29 ▶ 100-1150 CZK.

02.03 Friday - 30.03 Friday

Ballet

Národní Divadlo, Praha 1, Ostrovní 1, ☎ Mústek, tel. +420 224 90 14 48, info@narodni-divadlo.cz, www.narodni-divadlo.cz. Národní Divadlo
All shows at 19:00

Onegin: March 2, 6
Sleeping Beauty: March 29, 30

The Estates Theatre, Praha 1, Ovocný trh
The Little Match Girl: March 4, 17:00
Bohemia Ballet: March 9, 19:00 ▶ 30-1050 CZK.

06.03 Tuesday - 15.03 Thursday

One World Film Festival

I-4, Kino Světozor, Praha 1, Vodičkova 41, ☎ Mústek, tel. +420 226 20 04 00, mail@oneworld.cz, www.oneworld.cz. Organized by non-profit organization People in Need, the One World Human Rights International Documentary Film Festival is Europe's largest human rights movie retrospective. Now in its 14th year, its goal is to not only showcase documentaries, but also to draw attention to human rights abuses around the world.

22.03 Thursday - 30.03 Friday

FebioFest

Off map from G-6, CineStar Anděl, Praha 5, Radlická 3179/1E, ☎ Anděl, tel. +420 221 10 11 11, info@febiofest.cz, www.febiofest.cz. Now in its 19th year, Febiofest is the largest, non-competitive film festival in the country. Usually screening nearly 300 films from 60 countries it's the best way to see what's going on in the big world of film. There isn't usually a theme - just a huge variety from every genre imaginable: features, documentaries, experimental, children's, premieres, retrospectives and tributes. They also award a Czech Critics Prize, chosen by Czech journalists, to the best feature, documentary and animated film. And as proof of its popularity, evenings during the eight day run see Febiofest Music Festival break into tune in the multiplex's parking garage.

Liberec



Liberec Townhall

mountains to the north and the Krkonoše to the northeast. In the midst, right outside the city of Liberec is the towering and rugged Ještěd Mountain. This symbol of the region offers magnificent views of the surrounding valley; and on a clear day you can see straight to Poland. The unique tower perched on top was designed in 1973 by architect Karel Hubáček. Besides containing a communications tower; there's also a restaurant and hotel there. The city of Liberec is a distinctive and modern one. Architectural styles range from 18th century classic style brick in the centre to well-preserved 19th century industrial. The neoclassical town hall is quite interesting,



A mountainous area; the region is defined by the Lužické and Jizerské

as is the "villa quarter" with stately homes from the turn of the 20th century. One of the most interesting can be found on Jablonecká street; the Lieberg Manor-House. For a true flashback to the past stroll down Větrná street and admire the Waldstein houses. The oldest buildings in town, they are the only remaining examples of the classical merchant houses that used to make up the downtown area.

The dominant tower of the Church of St. Antonin the Great on Sokolovské náměstí is another defining landmark of the city; its altar pictures the patron saints of the Czech lands. The original Liberec synagogue was a monumental homage to Neo-Renaissance architecture. It was burned down by the Nazis in 1938 and has since been built. This new incarnation is in the shape of half of the Star of David, and its façade is symbolically representative of the Wailing Wall. You can find this fascinating structure on Rumjancevova Street.

Now that you've explored the city; it's time to visit some of its sites. The Liberec Zoo is one of the best in the country, containing wooded areas and a stream running through. Here you can see eagles, rhinoceros, penguins, giraffes and many more. The Liberec Zoo is also the only zoo in central Europe that breeds white tigers. They are also known for their breeding of rare and endangered species like Somali donkeys and the macaque ibex.

In the style of an ancient spa, Babylon entertains modern families of all ages. This aqua park not only offers water slides, swimming pools, steam baths and a wild river but also some drier activities such as bowling, laser shooting

Tourist information

For Liberec: nám. Dr. Beneše 1
Telephone: (+420) 485 101 709
Website: www.infolbc.cz

For the Region: U Jezu 642/2a, Liberec
Telephone: (+420) 485 226 111
Email: info@kraj-lbc.info, www.liberecky-kraj.cz

and a casino. There's a hotel and restaurant onsite as well. For more cultural pursuits, check out the Museum of Northern Bohemia (its building is worth the entrance fee alone) or the Regional Gallery, filled with European and Czech art. But now let's get out of the city and explore what other attractions the region has to offer.

There are three protected landscape areas in the region; which means hikers and bikers will find plenty of nature to explore. The area is crisscrossed by well-marked trails, enabling you to plan and carry out an athletic excursion all on your own. Water lovers should head towards Mácha Lake or the region of Holanské for their network of artificial lakes. Hikers must visit Český raj or Bohemian Paradise. This geopark is home to a variety of interesting sites like the Bozkov Caves and their underwater lake; giant "potholes;" a petrified forest and lava streams. Towns in the area include Zelený Brod, Jiennice and Turnov.

From ruined castles to elegant homes; from rock towns to world class zoos – everyone will find something to discover in and around Liberec.

Hotel: Hotel Liberec, Šaldovo náměstí 1345/6
Telephone: (+420) 482 710 028
Email: info@hotel-liberec.eu
www.hotel-liberec.eu



March 2012

27.09 Tuesday - 30.04 Monday

Inventors and Inventions

National Museum's New Building, Praha 1, Vinohradská 1, ☎ Muzeum, tel. +420 224 49 71 11, nm@nm.cz, www.nm.cz. Learn more about the life and work of more than 20 inventors who left behind incredible works of Czech, European and global importance. The inventors included in this exhibition all have Czech ties and were involved in many fields of human activity - including engineering, medicine, agriculture, biology, chemistry and the humanities. Visit and discover some curious and absurd creations! You may be surprised how many objects used in your daily life have Czech origin. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. 100 CZK.

09.12 Friday - 09.04 Monday

Tauromaquia

Obecní dům, Praha 1, nám. Republiky 5, ☎ Náměstí Republiky, http://tauromachie.cz. Bullfighting as reflected in the works of such masters as Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dalí, Francisco Goya, Emil Filla, Josef Čapek and more. Held in Obecní dům, there will be original drawings, oil paintings and archives on display. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00.



Karlovy Vary

If you are looking for a day or weekend trip from Prague, Karlovy Vary is an excellent option. It's the largest spa town in the Czech Republic and noted for all the famous people who have taken the waters. Have a sip in Karlovy Vary and you'll have shared a drink with Russian Tsar Peter the Great, Beethoven, Mozart and Sigmund Freud.

The city dates back to King Charles' IV time when, as the story goes, he and his entourage accidentally stumbled upon a thermal spring. He proclaimed it had curative powers and, in true King Charles style, had a town built around the spring. Fast forward a bunch of years and you can easily see walking through town the influence Art Nouveau had on 19th century architects. The Mill Colonnade, Emperor's Baths and the Thermal Spring Colonnade were built then. Just about every celebrity who visited the city was thanked by town officials with an honorary naming of some city monument or path. At the beginning of the 20th century, Karlovy Vary was one of the most popular spa cities in Europe. Two world wars and Communism saw a decline in its fortunes, with the state regulating all facilities and tourist primarily limited to Russians. Today, it is one of the most visited Czech tourist spots for foreign visitors outside of Prague. You'll still see a heavy Russian influence in the architecture and language translations.

Many people head to Karlovy Vary for the spas. Here, the treatments are best for those with digestive, motor system or metabolic disorders. Note – most of the spas here are more medical in nature than relaxing. Be sure to ask some questions regarding procedures before signing up. Many people spend up to three weeks, aided by doctors, therapeutic treatments and mineral water, to cure what ails them. If you are looking purely to indulge, look for “wellness programs” that offer saunas, whirlpools, steam baths, wraps and massages. Medical tourism has taken off in the Czech Republic in recent years thanks to the high quality of

surgeons combined with comparatively low costs. Private clinics for a variety of cosmetic and dental procedures can be found in Karlovy Vary.

Non-spa people can see a variety of other interesting sites here. The famous “spa wafers” hail from Karlovy Vary; as does the Czech spirit Becherovka (museum at T.G.M. 57, 353 17 01 77, www.becherovka.cz), Mattoni drinking water and glassmaker Moser. Tours can be taken of the Moser glass factory and you can discover everything you never wanted to know about Becherovka at the Jan Becher Museum. Other important sites to snap for your photo album include the Thermal Spring Colonnade whose geyser shoots out 2000 litres of mineral water a minute, and is the only spring used for baths. Karlovy Vary is an easy walking city, with most attractions located in the “spa centre.” The Mill Colonnade is the largest and offers six springs. Colonnades were historically built to offer people a pleasing spot to stroll while drinking the restorative waters. Go ahead and stick a cup into the fountain and sip like the locals! You can also buy a souvenir sipping cup from one of the many stands set-up all along the colonnades. Take a climb in the nearby forest to the Diana lookout tower. Located 547 meters above sea level, you'll get a grand view of the countryside. Or be lazy and take the cable car up the hill. Marked trails mean you can enjoy the crisp autumn air and beautiful forests easily on foot.

Restaurants and accommodation range the gamut from 5-star all the way to pensions and pubs. The Grandhotel Pupp (Mírové náměstí 2, 353 10 96 30, www.pupp.cz) is one of the most luxurious and includes its own Roman baths. A more affordable option is Villa Basileia (Mariánskolázeňská 4, 353 22 41 32, www.villabasileia.cz). Situated in a former countess' summer house, you'll be close to the city centre, but with easy access to the area's hiking and cycling paths. They offer in-house massages and can arrange treatments at nearby spas. Need souvenirs to take home to friends and family? A bottle of Becherovka liqueur, something from Moser glassworks, porcelain decorative goods or the local spa wafers all make for original gifts for just about anyone.

Autumn is a lovely time to visit. Most of the crowds have dissipated and the beautiful forests surrounding the city are changing from summery green to rustic reds and oranges. Karlovy Vary's cultural calendar stays full year round and the local ice hockey team is in the country's first league.

Getting there

Karlovy Vary has good frequent bus and train connections from Prague. The Student Agency has direct bus service that takes just a little over two hours. Buses leave from the Florenc station and usually make at least five trips a day. Tickets can be purchased at the Student Agency window in the station. Direct trains go from the main station, Hlavní nádraží and take nearly three and a half hours. There aren't as many trains; perhaps two-three a day. Check www.idos.cz for both train and bus schedules; or go to the stations to get times and buy tickets.

Tourist information

Info Centre: Lázeňská 1, Karlovy Vary, 355 32 11 76
Mo - Fr 09:00 - 17:00
Sa - Su 10:00 - 17:00
www.karlovy-vary.cz

Olomouc

For those looking to escape the crowds of Prague, Olomouc, a roughly 3 hour train ride from the capital, should capture your heart. The pretty university town is small enough to be charming, yet interesting enough for at least a weekend. Located in Moravia, there's a plethora of architecture and history.

Olomouc is the fifth largest city in the Czech Republic with a population of about 100,000. It is home to the country's second oldest university (after Charles University in Prague) which means its culture scene is alive and there's a variety of dining and entertainment options available. To get a feel for the city, start your day on the main square, Horní náměstí. There you will find the UNESCO listed Holy Trinity Column. It is the largest collection of Baroque statues within the framework of one sculpture group in Central Europe. The lower part contains a chapel, which can be visited by appointment only. The column is made up of 18 statues, 12 torchbearers, 6 reliefs, a sculptural group of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and finally at the top, the Holy Trinity. Also on Horní náměstí is an Astronomical Clock – we told you a visit would be like Prague! This clock is quite different from the one that draws massive crowds to Old Town Square. The clock dates back to the end of the 15th century, however the form it takes here is much different than what the original planners had designed. During World War II, the clock was so damaged in the fighting that City Hall decided not to reconstruct it, but instead design something modern. What you'll see now is a 1950s work depicting Communist era proletariat, like builders, agricultural workers and other laborers. The clock performs once a day, at noon, for about five minutes.

There are a number of interesting museums in Olomouc – something for nearly everyone. The beautiful Archdiocesan Museum, located on Václavské náměstí, is home to a permanent exhibition of the Olomouc Archdiocese, a picture gallery featuring paintings dating back to the 16th century, and the Mozarteum, a great hall commemorating the famous composer's stay in Olomouc. The inside of the Museum of Modern Art belies its Classicist style exterior. The permanent exhibition is one on arts and crafts from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries and temporary displays cover a range of mediums. The Natural Science Museum is housed in a former convent. The permanent exhibition is one on endangered plant species while two exhibition halls host about 20 temporary displays each year. The Olomouc zoo is located about 10 kilometres outside the city, in a lovely forested and hilly area. Giraffes, gibbons, ibex, white storks and a Sumatran tiger are only a few of the more than 300 species you can find there. The aquarium, wolf pavilion and birds of prey aviary are especially recommended.

The city is rich in religious history. Besides the Archdiocesan Museum and the Holy Trinity Column, visitors can also marvel at St. Maurice's Church, the biggest Gothic church in the region, dating from the 15-16th centuries and the oldest Moravian monastery, the Archbishop's Palace located in the Olomouc suburb of Hradisko. The most significant sacred building in Olomouc is the Bishop's Cathedral of St. Wenceslas, built in 1109.

If you have a couple extra days, explore the lovely Moravian countryside outside of Olomouc. The city is a great place to base yourself while discovering the beautiful towns and tasty Moravian wine in the eastern part of the county. Litomyšl and Kroměříž are two charming towns that will keep you busy for an entire day.

OLOMOUC

Olomouc

kulturní kalendář ■ events calendar

BŘEZEN | MARCH

- 28. 3.–1. 4. **MUSICA RELIGIOSA**
10. ročník festivalu církevní a duchovní hudby
10th festival of religious and spiritual music

DUBEN | APRIL

- 17.–22. 4. **ACADEMIA FILM OLOMOUC**
47. ročník mezinárodního festivalu vědecko-populárních filmů
47th international festival of popular-science films
- 19.–22. 4. **FLORA OLOMOUC**
jarní etapa mezinárodní zahradnické výstavy a veletrhu
spring edition of international horticultural exhibition and fair

KVĚTEN – ČERVEN | MAY – JUNE

- 8. 5.–2. 6. **DVOŘÁKOVA OLOMOUC | DVOŘÁK'S OLOMOUC**
festival klasické hudby
festival of classical music
- 30. 5.–2. 6. **BEERFEST OLOMOUC**
11. ročník Českého pivního festivalu
11th Czech beer festival

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Information centre | Horní náměstí Olomouc | tel.: +420 585 513 385 | tourism.olomouc.eu

Southern Bohemia

The region south of Prague is an outdoor lover's paradise. Bikers and walkers flock to the area every weekend to experience the fresh air and beautiful countryside. Picturesque towns and historical castles are available to discover, whether you choose to explore the region by your own power or not. We introduce you to four towns well-worth your time.

Český Krumlov

This jewel of Southern Bohemia is almost too picture perfect. A grandiose castle on a hill; a winding river twisting and turning its way through the town; narrow streets huddled together – the adjectives could go on and on. Unfortunately, all this cuteness brings a lot of tourists. One of the most visited cities in the Czech Republic after Prague; you'll be sharing the tiny streets with many a camera-touting traveller. That's not to say you should give it a pass however. Spend a couple days there; you'll discover early mornings and late afternoons and evenings are a bit more peaceful and allow you to truly absorb the splendor.



Hotel: Bellevue, Latrán 77
Telephone: (+420) 380 720 177
Email: reservation@bellevuehotels.cz
www.bellevuehotels.cz

Tourist Information: Náměstí Svornosti 2
Telephone: (+420) 380 704 622
Email: info@ckrumlov.cz
www.ckrumlov.cz

www.inyourpocket.com

Třeboň

Peat moss and fish. Sounds like a smelly combination but throw in some bikes and you've got a perfect Třeboň trip. This spa city lies in the heart of the Třeboň Basin, a UNESCO biosphere reservation. The area is laced with fish ponds, full of the country's favorite fish – carp. While visiting, be sure to try it. If you've eaten it before you'll be surprised by its clean, fresh taste. These ponds are full of peat moss, and what better to do with the plethora than spread it on your body? The stuff is supposedly full of iron, so good for your joints. A relaxing way to spend an evening after biking through the area on well-marked trails.

Hotel: Zlatá Hvězda, Masarykovo náměstí 107
Telephone: (+420) 384 757 111
Email: mailbox@zlahhvvezda.cz
www.zlahhvvezda.cz

Tourist Information: Masarykovo náměstí 103
Telephone: (+420) 384 721 169
Email: info@tребon.cz
www.itребon.cz

Jindřichův Hradec

Boasting the third largest castle in the Czech Republic, Jindřichův Hradec is a laidback, quiet place to experience. The main square of Náměstí Míru is a treasure trove of architectural styles while the nearby Vajgar Lake offers a cooling landscape. Climb the tower of the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary for a bird's eye view of the surrounding countryside or stay low and experience the Gothic and Renaissance wonders of the castle.

Hotel: Bílá Paní, Dobrovského 5
Telephone: (+420) 384 363 329
Email: recepcce@hotelbilapani.cz
www.hotelbilapani.cz

Tourist Information: Panská 136
Telephone: (+420) 384 363 546
Email: info@jh.cz, www.jh.cz

Tábor


Religious wars and the Hussites played a big part in the country's history back in the 1400s. No where is this more apparent or preserved than the town of Tábor. The second largest city in the region, its historical center is a beautiful maze. The streets were originally designed to thwart invading armies; but now they are an enjoyable way to find yourself getting lost. Visit the Hussite Museum and Underground Tunnels for a glimpse back; or wander around Lake Jordan for a breath of fresh air. Tábor's easy style and close proximity to Prague make it a great place to spend the day.


Hotel: Nautilus, Žižkovo náměstí 30
Telephone: (+420) 380 900 900
Email: info@hotelnautilus.cz
www.hotelnautilus.cz

Tourist Information: Žižkovo náměstí 2
Telephone: (+420) 381 486 230
Email: infocentrum@mutabor.cz
www.tabor.cz

Cream of the crop


Corinthia Towers Praha 4, Kongresová 1, M Vyšehrad, tel. (+420) 261 19 11 11, fax (+420) 261 21 16 73, towers@corinthia.cz, www.corinthia.cz. All the convenience you would demand from a 24-floor hotel in a capital city. In addition to a top-class oriental and Italian restaurant, facilities include a casino, fitness centre and ten-pin bowling. ▶ 544 rooms (120 singles €260 - 300, 388 doubles €260 - 300, triples €350 - 390, 20 suites €410 - 1570, 1 presidential suite €1570, 16 junior suites €410).  ★★★★★

Grand Hotel Bohemia F-3, Praha 1, Královská 4, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 234 60 81 11, fax (+420) 222 32 95 45, office@grandhotelbohemia.cz, www.grandhotelbohemia.cz. An Austrian-run hotel with attractive Art Nouveau rooms and staff who are renowned for their efficiency. The hotel has a café and laundry service. ▶ 78 rooms (10 singles €175 - 240, 65 doubles €210 - 280, 3 junior suites €310 - 540).  ★★★★★

Hilton Prague J-2, Praha 8, Pobřežní 1, M Florenc, tel. (+420) 224 84 11 11, fax (+420) 224 84 23 78, sales.prague@hilton.com, www.prague.hilton.com. Easily recognisable as the glass box on the Vltava, Hilton Prague has all the facilities expected in this international brand. 224 hour bars, restaurants and services and a casino. ▶ 788 rooms (20 singles €150 - 280, 646 doubles €150 - 280, 91 triples €166 - 296, 19 suites €308 - 438, 3 apartments €686 - 816, 8 junior suites €266 - 396, 1 presidential suite €956 - 1089).  ★★★★★


Hilton Prague Old Town I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 7, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 822 100, fax (+420) 221 822 200, www.hilton.com. The city's second, smaller Hilton boasts a classy interior in an enviable location. All the high-class Hilton amenities are available in a newer and lovely setting. Zinc, their restaurant and cocktail bar are worth a visit as well. ▶ 310 rooms (299 doubles €140 - 250, 10 suites €399 - 459, 1 apartments €950).  ★★★★★

Kempinski Hybernská Prague J-3, Praha 1, Hybernská 12, M Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 226 22 61 11, fax (+420) 226 22 61 23, reservations.prague@kempinski.com, www.kempinski-prague.com. Luxury squared at the new Kempinski hotel. The property dates back to the 15th century and has been carefully reconstructed to offer 75 rooms and suites. Expect the usual: air conditioning, telephone, TV, radio, minibar, hairdryer, bath robe, safe, and high-speed internet wifi connection, non-smoking rooms. Suites feature separate bedroom and living

Residence Lundborg C-1, Praha 1, U Lužického semináře 3, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 01 19 11, fax (+420) 257 01 19 66, residence@lundborg.cz, www.lundborg.cz. A gorgeous hidden gem in Malostranská; the Residence Lundborg will tuck you in with beauty and service. The all suites and apartments hotel is practically right next door to Charles Bridge. Internet and PC connections are in every room, along with a kitchen, living room and jacuzzi in all the bathrooms. There's even a wine cellar and massage studio that includes a piece of the historic 12th century Judit Bridge. ▶ 13 rooms (4 suites €130 - 350, 6 apartments €190 - 650, 3 junior suites €120 - 330).  ★★★★★

Symbol key

 Air conditioning	 Credit cards accepted
 Casino	 Conference facilities
 Child friendly	 Facilities for the disabled
 Internet	 Guarded parking
 Fitness centre	 Non-smoking rooms
 Restaurant	 Nearest metro station
 Sauna	 Swimming pool
 Animal friendly	 Wi-Fi

areas, fitted kitchenette, guest WC and walk-in closets. Big bonus: the hotel has its own private garden and atrium. ▶ 75 rooms (suites €375, Superior €249, Grand Deluxe €295).  ★★★★★

Prague Marriott I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 8, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 88 88 88, fax (+420) 222 88 88 89, prague.reservations@marriotthotels.com, www.marriottprague.com. Bigger really is better; plus you've got an excellent location to boot. Every amenity imaginable and size, lots of it. Higher priced suites have two levels. The rooms have recently been renovated for an extra pop of luxury and comfort. If you are shelling out for a suite or better, then breakfast in the Executive Lounge is included. ▶ 293 suites (258 doubles €149 - 315, 33 suites €359 - 495).  ★★★★★






President H-2, Praha 1, nám. Curieových 100, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 234 61 41 11, fax (+420) 234 61 41 10, reservations@hotelpresident.cz, www.hotelpresident.cz. A range of top-class suites, an executive floor, a casino and a fitness room and spa, have earned the President five star status (though even their large standard rooms have a sofa). Photographs throughout the hotel complement the elegant décor of pale yellows and blue glass. All staff seem genuinely pleased to be here and smile broadly. ▶ 130 rooms (7 singles €165 - 225, 65 doubles €145 - 225, 22 triples €145 - 225, 32 junior suites €195 - 255, 3 senior suites €295 - 355, 1 presidential suite €800 - 1100). Executive floor add €50 on all types of rooms.  ★★★★★

Riverside Hotel Prague G-5, Praha 5, Janáčkovo námř. 15, M Karlovo nám., tel. (+420) 225 99 46 11, fax (+420) 225 99 46 22, reservation@riversideprague.com, www.riversideprague.com. As the name suggests, this hotel is on the Vltava, and views of the castle and Prague's gold-tipped towers improve the higher you well-equipped room is. An Art Nouveau facade opens into Belle Epoque interiors and luxurious rooms and suites with King or double twins, custom furnishings and terraces for some. ▶ 45 rooms (45 apartments €155 - 525).  ★★★★★


Upmarket

Absolutum Praha 7, Jablonského 4, M Holešovice, tel. (+420) 222 54 14 06, booking@absolutumhotel.cz, www.absolutumhotel.cz. The absolute best place to stay in Praha 7. Design hotel Absolutum is an upscale, clean and shiny place with all the conveniences of home; including internet connection and parking. The restaurant is also getting rave reviews so if you are looking for chic accommodations in a cool 'hood, absolutely check in. ▶ (singles €130, doubles €140, apartments €170).  ★★★★★





Antik City H-5, Praha 2, Malá Štěpánská 13,  **Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 91 91 00, fax (+420) 224 91 90 60, info@antikcity.cz, www.antikcity.cz.** A newly reconstructed boutique hotel in a quiet part of Nové Město. The rooms are classically designed and include sat TV, mini-bar, safe and free internet connection. Their lovely café is a nice place to start or end your day. ▶30 rooms (singles €155, 30 doubles €165).   ★★★★★

Ariston K-4, Praha 3, Seifertova 65,  **Hlavní nádraží, tel. (+420) 222 78 25 17/(+420) 222 78 11 87, fax (+420) 222 78 03 47, ariston@europohotels.cz, www.hotelariston.cz.** Rooms at the Ariston are light and pastel coloured. Although it may seem far from the centre, it's just a couple of tram stops away. ▶61 rooms (4 singles €41 - 66, 44 doubles €52 - 87, 12 triples €66 - 108, 1 suites €93 - 187).     ★★★★★




Astoria F-2, Praha 1, Rybná 10,  **Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 77 57 11, fax (+420) 221 77 57 12, info@hotelastoria.cz, www.hotelastoria.cz.** Astoria occupies a modern building on some prime real estate in Prague Old Town. Rooms are on the small side, but comfortable with bright blue interiors, modern wood furnishings and great views. Top-floor VIP rooms offer more amenities and enormous balconies. ▶74 rooms (singles €99 - 220, 74 doubles €99 - 240).     ★★★★★

Barceló F-3, Praha 1, Celetná 29,  **Náměstí Republiky, tel. 222 33 71 11, fax 241 44 10 23, oldtown-praha.fom@barcelo.com, www.barcelo.com.** It's so light and bright! With a courtyard in its centre; Barceló tosses away the typical dark lobby and hallways and lets the sun shine in. The lobby is covered in a skylight and the walk to your room will have a view to outside. A mix of rooms and suites (28 rooms; 34 suites) with all the mod-cons: mini-bar, TV, DVD player, air-conditioning, etc. An excellent restaurant as well. ▶62 rooms (28 doubles €69, 34 suites €94).   ★★★★★

Belvedere I-1, Praha 7, Milady Horákové 19,  **Vltavská, tel. (+420) 220 10 61 11, fax (+420) 233 37 44 71, prague@belvedere-hotel.com, www.hotelbelvedere.cz.** Situated in a lovely area across the Vltava, not far from the castle, the Belvedere offers wonderful accommodation and a high level of service. The spacious standard rooms

come with as many mod cons as you could ever need, and the executive floor has even more on offer. ▶152 rooms (6 singles €46 - 75, 113 doubles €60 - 100, 32 triples €75 - 125, 1 quads €89 - 148).     ★★★★★

Best Western Premier Hotel Majestic Plaza I-5, Praha 1, Štěpánská 33,  **Můstek, tel. (+420) 221 48 61 00, fax (+420) 221 48 64 86, reception@hotel-majestic.cz, www.hotel-majestic.cz.** Lavishly renovated buildings around a copper clad courtyard. One is Biedermeier style and sports slightly cramped but fully mod coned rooms on five floors. The other is superb art deco and hosts seven floors of rooms with the top floors wielding the terraces and views. Central and stylish, Majestic is the word. ▶185 rooms (175 doubles €125 - 260, 5 triples €165 - 310, 5 apartments €195 - 330).   ★★★★★

BW Meteor Plaza I-3, Praha 1, Hybernská 6,  **Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 19 25 59, fax (+420) 224 22 06 81, reservation@hotel-meteor.cz, www.hotel-meteor.cz.** Within shouting distance of the Powder Tower, this Best Western hotel is full of charm, but then again, there has been an inn here since 1307. In the 18th century, the man later to become Emperor Josef II wouldn't lay his head down anywhere else. ▶88 rooms (15 singles €109 - 173, 56 doubles €125 - 190, 10 triples €166 - 239, 6 suites €141 - 217).   ★★★★★

Carlton Praha 3, Táboritská 18,  **Jiřího z Poděbrad, tel. 222 71 11 77, fax 222 71 11 99, carlton@europohotels.cz, www.hotelcarlton.cz.** Dark wood and deep green soft furnishings give a sophisticated air to the rooms. Bathrooms are luxurious, while the top floor rooms have vaulted, slanted ceilings and suites often go for the same price as a double. A little way out of town, but the Carlton has good tram links. ▶49 rooms (3 singles €50 - 89, 40 doubles €66 - 118, 6 triples €81 - 147).   ★★★★★

Chateau St. Havel Praha 4, V podzámčí 1, tel. (+420) 241 44 57 17, fax (+420) 241 44 57 21, info@chateauhotel.cz, www.chateauhotel.cz. The fabulous neo-Gothic Krč castle, south of Prague's centre, houses this exclusive hotel. Originally a 13th century fortress, the building was remodelled into its current romantic form in the 1840s, and it still has an extensive English garden. From the elegant lobby with its cassette ceiling and the minimalist restaurant in the chapel to the regally-styled rooms, this place is certainly for a king. ▶34 rooms (34 doubles €79 - 149).   ★★★★★

Clarion Prague City I-6, Praha 2, Tylovo náměstí 3,  **IP Pavlova, tel. 296 74 42 49, fax 296 74 42 33, clarion-city@cpihotels.cz, www.cpihotels.cz.** Opened in 2010, the Clarion Prague City offers modern comfort close to Wenceslas Square. More than 60 rooms, a restaurant and bar, in the hip Vinohrady neighborhood will make for a great stay. ▶ (Superior rooms €180).   ★★★★★




Clarion Prague Old Town F-2, Praha 1, Hradcební 9,  **Náměstí Republiky, tel. 296 39 81 00, clarion@cpihotels.cz, www.cpihotels.cz.** Fresh and modern, the Clarion Old Town is a bright city center stay. Good service and amenities makes this an easy chain hotel stay. There's free internet access in all the rooms, air conditioning and a nice restaurant and café. ▶93 rooms (90 doubles €75 - 120, 3 suites €100 - 200).   ★★★★★

Courtyard Marriott Flora Praha 3, Lucemburská 46,  **Flora, tel. (+420) 236 08 80 88, fax (+420) 236 08 80 89, www.marriott.com.** Billed as hotels designed by business travellers, every room has a dataport and TV internet (both charged for standard rooms) and are spacious with desk, ergonomic chair and a sofa (bed). King size and very comfortable beds dominate rooms, which have ice buckets, fridge for you to fill, hairdryer, coffee/tea facilities plus iron in every room and robe and slippers in superior rooms make the Courtyard a place to stay. 24hr shop in the lobby plus a cosy bar. ▶161 rooms (81 singles €105 - 135, 64 doubles €135 - 175, 13 triples €140 - 200, 1 suites €195 - 245). Breakfast €9-16.   ★★★★★

Crowne Plaza Prague Castle Praha 1, Strahovská 128,  **tel. (+420) 226 08 00 00, fax (+420) 226 08 02 00, cpraguecastle@keyhotels.cz, www.crowneplaza.com.** A beautifully restored 16th century building with modern annex tucked behind Strahov Monastery holds this striking new hotel from InterContinental with glass domed atrium/library and effective yet simple designs in lighting and furniture. Two wings, one old, one new, hold spacious rooms with king, queen or twin beds, desk, plasma TV, smelles from The White Company and some have a small terrace. The usual services join the country's only Ayurvedic spa and clinic, with doctor, therapists and equipment all imported from Sri Lanka. Luxurious accommodation, supremely personable and delightfully quiet. ▶138 rooms (2 singles €150 - 240, 126 doubles €170 - 260, 3 suites €320 - 400, 7 junior suites €225 - 350). Breakfast and VAT not included in the price.   ★★★★★

Duo Praha 9, Teplická 492,  **Stržňov, tel. (+420) 266 13 11 11, fax (+420) 283 88 01 42, info@hotelduo.cz, www.hotelduo.cz.** Hotel Duo Prague, offers exceptional comfort, convenience and a wide range of amenities and services. The hotel is located north east of the city centre - just 10 minutes by metro from the very centre of Prague. Indoor swimming pool, sauna, gym, catering services, conference facilities, parking area and far more is provided. ▶647 rooms (62 singles €40 - 125, 556 doubles €41 - 134, 29 suites €59 - 199).   ★★★★★

Elite H-5, Praha 1, Ostrovní 32,  **Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 93 22 50, fax (+420) 224 93 07 87, sales@hotelelite.cz, www.hotelelite.cz.** With a history that dates back to the 14th century, the Elite, a member of the Small Charming group, is another gem. Totally refurbished in 2000, rooms are suitably grand, spacious and historic, with wonderful high ceilings, and lovely antique furniture. ▶79 rooms (10 singles €112 - 176, 67 doubles €125 - 199, 1 triples €169 - 267, 1 junior suite €147 - 216).   ★★★★★

Elysee F-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 43,  **Můstek, tel. 221 45 51 11, fax 224 22 57 73, elysee@europohotels.cz, www.hotelelysee.cz.** Right in the centre of the city, with all of Prague's main attractions just a few minutes walk away. All rooms are well-appointed, spacious and have luxurious bathrooms. Six new apartments have been added to Elysee's charm, all fully equipped for 2-6 people. (Prices for apartments do not include breakfast). ▶76 rooms (8 singles €58 - 100, 50 doubles €75 - 133, 12 triples €95 - 166, 6 apartments €111 - 246).   ★★★★★

Hotel Noir Legerova 35, Praha 2,  **I.P.Pavlova, tel. +420 224 104 111, info@hotelnoir.cz, www.hotelnoir.cz.** A brand new 4-star design hotel Noir is skillfully combining history and the present. This modern accommodation is situated in the very heart of Prague - the Wenceslas Square, the National Museum and the prestige residential district of Vinohrady are all within 5-minute walk.   ★★★★★



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Liberty E-4, Praha 1, 28. října 11, M Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 23 95 98, fax (+420) 224 23 76 94, info@hotelliberty.cz, www.hotelliberty.cz. The Liberty is a lovely, understated hotel with elegant furniture and textiles, plus all mod cons for today's travellers. Some suites are split-level and views of the castle can be had. ▶32 rooms (1 singles €131, 19 doubles €150).  ★★


Mövenpick Praha 5, Mozartova 261/1, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 257 15 11 11, fax (+420) 257 15 31 31, hotel.prague@movenpick.com, www.movenpick-prague.com. The hotel's rooms are spacious and are decorated in a modern style. Take the funicular up the hill to the restaurant and function rooms with outstanding views of the city. ▶442 rooms (singles €125, doubles €125, suites €185, Executive room €140).  ★★

Neruda Praha 1, Nerudova 44, M Malostranská, tel. 257 53 55 57, fax 257 53 14 92, info@hotelnerruda.cz, www.hotelnerruda.cz. One of Prague's first design hotels. The 700 year old building nestled beneath the bulwarks of



 Odborů 4, Prague 2
tel. 246 00 83 24
info@mosaichouse.com
www.mosaichouse.com

the castle hold clean design, fully equipped modern rooms with complimentary cake made in their divine café from a 100 year-old recipe. The oasis of a roof top terrace is open to non-guests too. ▶42 rooms (singles €79, Superior Rooms €95).  ★★

NH Praha Radlicka Praha 5, Radlicka 46, M Anděl, tel. +420 257 096 100, fax +420 257 096 110, nhpraharadlicka@nh-hotels.com, www.nh-hotels.com. New and environmentally friendly, the NH Praha Radlicka will satisfy many a traveler. Wooden floors, modern furnishings, a beautiful breakfast room and air conditioning. Located near Anděl, you are in a convenient location, especially for Prague 5 nightlife. ▶134 rooms (133 doubles €77 - 101, 1 suites €).  ★★

Sovereign I-4, Politických vězňů 16, M Muzeum, tel. (+420) 242 45 45 45/(+420) 242 45 45 65, fax (+420) 242 45 45 11, sales@hotel-sovereign.cz, www.hotel-sovereign.cz. Elegant yet homey with an excellent city-centre location, this new four-star superior hotel should be popular. Fifty spacious rooms and suites are all individually decorated in a warm comforting style. The location is on the nicer, quieter side of Wenceslas Square and comes complete with all the usuals: in-room air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, satellite TV, mini-bar and safe. ▶ (singles €95, doubles €99, Early Bird Single rooms €80, Early Bird Double rooms €85).  ★★

Mid-Range

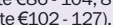
Anchora I6, Praha 2, Kateřinská 42, M IP Pavlova, tel. (+420) 224 24 28 63, fax (+420) 222 24 07 17, hotel@hotelankora.cz, www.hotelankora.cz. Modern, but with Art Deco touches mean you can have all your mod cons with a bit of Prague at the Ankor. This 8 level building boasts fabulous views from the top two floors; but all the rooms have anti-allergen mattresses and linens; mini-bar; satellite TV and a high-speed internet connection. It's an easy walk to Wenceslas Square and you've got lots of tram and metro options practically outside your front door. ▶40 rooms (singles €79, doubles €99, apartments €140).  ★★

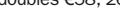
Anna J-5, Praha 2, Budečská 17, M Nám. Míru, tel. (+420) 222 51 31 11, fax (+420) 222 51 51 58, reception@hotelanna.cz, www.hotelanna.cz. Part of the Small Charming group, and the Anna is just that. A real gem, with first class services and a homely atmosphere that caters to a thoughtful clientele looking for something a little special. ▶24 rooms (8 singles €63 - 77, 10 doubles €83 - 103, 4 triples €110 - 130, 2 suites €120 - 140).  ★★

Atlantic I-3, Praha 1, Na Poříčí 9, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 81 10 84, fax (+420) 224 81 23 78, info@hotel-atlantic.cz, www.hotel-atlantic.cz. This hotel is on the site of a roadside inn in the 17th century. The Atlantic remains on a busy road today but with renovated interiors which are now sleek, chic and classy, conference facilities and Fiesta, their self service restaurant, this is excellent value for being so close to the Old Town. ▶88 rooms (9 singles €73 - 110, 52 doubles €97 - 129, 25 triples €112 - 158, 2 quads €141 - 187).  ★★

www.inyourpocket.com

Best Western Hotel Páv H-5, Praha 1, Křemencova 13, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 221 50 21 11, fax (+420) 221 50 22 23, reception@hotel-pav.cz, www.hotel-pav.cz. Prague is blessed with another Small Charming Hotel, this time in the New Town, where three buildings have been merged and beautifully reconstructed to incorporate classical elements with modern lines. And it is very minimalist: no prints on the walls and muted wood and beige interior. All rooms have twin beds, a safe, minibar, desk, TV and free Wi-Fi. Pets are welcome and the lower double price is for single occupancy. ▶81 rooms (66 doubles €79 - 129, 15 triples €118 - 158).  ★★

Hunger Wall Residence B-4, Praha 5, Pláská 615/8, M Anděl, tel. 257 40 40 40, fax 257 40 40 60, info@hungerwall.eu, www.hungerwall.eu. If your journey to Prague is going to last a bit longer than just a weekend, consider checking in to the Hunger Wall Residence. Located in Malá Strana, you'll be treated to a city centre location that's surrounded by parks. Eighteen apartments comprise the fully renovated building, offering such amenities as a separate working corner and kitchenette. An LCD TV, washer and dryer plus a personal security and fire alarm guarantees your comfort and safety. ▶18 rooms (8 Junior Suite €86 - 104, 8 Superior Suite €92 - 112, 2 Executive Suite €102 - 127).  ★★

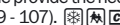
Evropa F-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 25, M Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 22 81 17, fax (+420) 224 22 45 44, info@evropahotel.cz, www.evropahotel.cz. Amazing... from the outside. The 1905 Art Nouveau façade is the most beautiful on Václavské náměstí, and the café is lovely. However, the rooms (including the faux Louis 16th suites) are distinctively scruffy-looking, some downright shabby furniture and creaky floors. The cheaper rooms share facilities in the corridor. ▶85 rooms (13 singles €38, 41 doubles €58, 26 triples €78, 5 quads €123).  ★★

Hotel Anděl Praha 5, Radlická 40/857, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 251 17 13 10, fax (+420) 251 17 13 90, info@hotelandel.com, www.hotelandel.cz. A homely, quiet hotel by the railway station and opposite the Staropramen brewery. Fear not, double glazing keeps the noise out of the sunny, well appointed rooms although you should take a rear courtyard facing room if you are a light sleeper. Minibar, hair dryer etc. are standard in their not-so-standard rooms - this is a converted 1898 residential building so all rooms are unique; the owner is an architect. Staff are friendly and multilingual. ▶31 rooms (31 singles 1280Kč, 31 doubles 1300Kč, 31 triples 1742Kč, extra bed 300Kč).  ★★

Hotel Hastal Prague Old Town F-2, Praha 1, Haštalská 16, tel. (+420) 222 31 43 35, fax (+420) 222 31 43 36, info@hastal.com, www.hastal.com. This lovely family-run hotel will be pleased to welcome lovers and families, offering great affordable accommodations in central Prague. The beautiful atmosphere created by the interior decorators may suggest a great place to stay for a romantic break, and a number of services and facilities will make this hotel the ideal place for meeting or private events. The hotel restaurant will offer you a cosy spot, and in summer, a beautiful terrace will be available for your fine dining. The property also features a meeting room with audiovisual equipment, and wireless Internet access is available throughout the building. Hotel facilities also include shops, safe at the reception, laundry service, baby sitting service upon request, TV room and bar. The multilingual staff, providing tourist information and city maps, will be at your disposal around the clock to make your stay in Prague an unforgettable experience. The building is wheelchair accessible and entirely air-

Mosaic House Hotel H-5, Praha 2, Odborů 4, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. 246 00 83 24, info@mosaichouse.com, www.mosaichouse.com. For the hip traveler looking to connect with others and concerned about the environment comes the 4-star Mosaic House. Beautiful eco-friendly designer private rooms co-mingle with shared rooms for an electric vibe of guest. There's a popular bar and restaurant, Belushi's on the ground floor. Breakfast is included, as are all other necessities like air conditioning, free WiFi and mini-fridges. Non-smoking. ▶ (singles €90, doubles €115). ★★

conditioned. The Hastal Prague Old Town Hotel is pet friendly. ▶31 rooms (2 singles €75 - 102, 29 doubles €92 - 154).  ★★

Ibis Praha City I-6, Praha 2, Kateřinská 36, M I. P. Pavlova, tel. (+420) 222 86 57 77/(+420) 222 86 58 41, fax (+420) 222 86 56 66, Resa-praha-re04@accor.com, www.ibishotel.com. The Ibis provides a mid-range hotel experience, too clinical to be upmarket and too well serviced for the lower end of the spectrum as well. Functional rooms in a somewhat modern style provide the necessities of life. ▶181 rooms (181 doubles €79 - 107).  ★★

Ibis Praha Smíchov Praha 5, Plzeňská 14, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 221 70 17 00, fax (+420) 221 70 18 00, resa-praha-re06@accor.com, www.ibishotel.com. The third Ibis for Prague gives their usual room rates and facilities in the ever-growing and trendier by the day area around Anděl. Hard working staff keep smiling and converse freely in a number of languages. The lobby bar is busy, which is very uncommon in hotels. An excellent choice for a comfortable stay across the river. Oh, and your pets are welcome too. ▶228 rooms (singles €64 - 84, 214 doubles €76 - 96, 12 triples €88 - 108, 2 suites €154).  ★★

Kavalír Praha 5, Plzeňská 177, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 257 21 65 65, fax (+420) 257 21 00 85, kavalir@europahotels.cz, www.hotel-kavalir.cz. A completely refurbished three star hotel on the main street of Praha 5 with quick and easy access to the city centre, the Kavalír has lovely rooms. ▶50 rooms (2 singles €46 - 80, 39 doubles €60 - 106, 9 triples €77 - 133). Singles from 950CZK; Doubles from 1250CZK; Triples from 1550CZK. Includes buffet breakfast, city tax and VAT.  ★★



Melounová 3, Prague 2, tel. (+420) 296 30 35 30
reservation@miss-sophies.com, www.miss-sophies.com

Royal Standard Praha 2, Rašínovo nábřeží 38, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. 224 91 60 60, fax 224 91 20 40, info@standard.cz, www.standard.cz. Offers cosy accommodation in luxurious two-bedroom apartments known for their splendid view of Prague Castle and the Vltava (Moldau) River. The hotel rooms are practical, yet comfortably furnished. This Art Nouveau building is a national historical sight built in 1913 in the centre of Prague, on the bank of the Vltava River between the National Theatre and the High Castle (Vysehrad). Both metro and tram stops are within walking distance. Convenient location with easy access - even on foot - to Prague's historical monuments and cultural buildings. ▶ 19 rooms (9 doubles €39 - 86, 3 apartments €69 - 145, 7 Luxurious Apts €119 - 189).

Apartments

Marriott Executive Apartments I-5, Praha 2, V Tůň 9, M Muzeum, tel. (+420) 221 02 21 02, fax (+420) 221 022 103, www.praguemarriottexecutiveapartments.com. An excellent choice for the corporate or business traveller; the fully furnished studio or one-bedroom apartments provide a "home office" area with two lines, high speed (wired) internet access and fully equipped kitchen. Housekeeping is available, as is dinner delivery from a number of nearby restaurants. A fitness area, plunge pool, plus business and concierge services round out the amenities. ▶ 53 rooms (53 apartments €80 - 250).

Prague Classic Rental J-6, Praha 2, Záhřebská 37, M Náměstí Miru, tel./fax (+420) 222 51 64 66, tel. (+420) 603 33 16 79, info@pragueclassicrental.cz, www.pragueclassicrental.cz. A variety of apartments in 3 excellent Vinohrady buildings. Get a feel for city life with

Airport Hotels

Courtyard Marriott Prague Airport Praha 6, Aviatická 1092/8, tel. (+420) 236 07 71 40, fax (+420) 236 07 70 78, www.marriott.com/prgpa. Security dictates no open windows so it's all sealed but it's all glass walls with magnificent views and Zen garden by the fitness centre with jasmine, lemon, orange and olive trees. The comfy library, lobby and business area (with pay Wi-Fi) and Italian restaurant with open kitchen and as-required bar are all open to the public and connected to the airport via a covered walkway. Rooms are of the high Marriott standard with plasma TVs with keyboard, to pay internet, an ice machine on each floor and a fridge for you to stock. A welcome change to the airport's services. ▶ 235 rooms (132 singles €85 - 125, 98 doubles €85 - 125, 5 suites €175 - 195).

Ramada Airport Hotel Prague Praha 6, K Letišti 25a, tel. (+420) 220 11 12 50, fax (+420) 220 11 12 56, reception@ramada-airportprague.com, www.ramadainternational.com. The oldest and least appealing of the airport hotels and less inclined for the international traveller - it is adjacent to the domestic terminal and has no link other than overpriced taxi to the international (north) terminal. Rooms have safe, minibar, hair dryer etc. but are basic and with showers only while apartments comprise a room with small sofa bed and bathtub. Internet is not free but they have TV keyboards.

Czech Inn K-6, Praha 10, Francouzská 76, M Nám. Miru, tel. (+420) 267 26 76 00, fax (+420) 267 26 76 01, info@czech-inn.cz, www.czech-inn.com. The pun is excused due to the sheer design beauty and comfort these people have afforded your average backpacker. From some of the makers of Sir Toby's and Miss Sophie's, Czech Inn is the future of backpacking, we hope... the custom iron bedsteads and furniture, stylish fixtures, famous shower heads, café and wow-split-level apartments have already made the international press, even the 10 bed dorm is spacious. All beds have lockable drawers. Reservations necessary. ▶ 33 rooms (12 doubles €50 - 57, 2 triples €58 - 65, 8 apartments €68 - 157, dorms €14 - 15).

Miss Sophie's I-5/6, Praha 2, Melounová 3, M I. P. Pavlova, tel. (+420) 296 30 35 30, fax (+420) 296 30 35 31, reservation@miss-sophies.com, www.miss-sophies.com. A hostel for the discerning budget traveller, Sophie's has deluxe yet spartan rooms. Concrete floors and blank walls but designer bathrooms with delicious showers. Bag lockers on wheels, and a cigar club-style common room. Free internet, but no kitchen or breakfast. ▶ 14 rooms (2 singles €30 - 42, 5 doubles €42 - 49, 4 triples €49 - 59, 3 apartments €38 - 73, 21 dorm beds €11 - 14).

Sir Toby's Praha 7, Dělnická 24, M Nádraží Holešovice, tel. (+420) 283 87 06 35, fax (+420) 283 87 06 36, info@sirtobys.com, www.sirtobys.com. A friendly, excellently-run independent hostel. It's out of the centre, but prices are good, transport connections abound, and it's two blocks from Mecca club. Whether you want a dorm or a room with private bathroom, they have it. Plus garden, bar, full kitchen, internet and informative, knowledgeable staff. ▶ 27 rooms (1 singles €35, 4 doubles €40 - 45, 4 triples €47 - 54, 6 quads €50 - 63, 12 dorms €9 - 12).

a 1 week or longer stay in one of Prague Classic Rental's fully furnished and modernly decorated apartments. From studios up to 3-bedroom flats, you'll be well-catered to in your own personal space. ▶ 10,000-25,000CZK per week.

Hostels

Little Town Hotel A-2, Praha 1, Malostranské náměstí 11, M Malostranská, tel. 242 40 69 64, info@littletownhotel.cz, www.littletownhotel.cz. Opened in 2009, Little Town Hotel's best feature is its location. Right out your front door is St. Nicholas Cathedral on Malostranské náměstí. There are a variety of rooms for every budget - from dorm style to private, en suite. The décor is pretty bare bones, but when you've got the magic of Prague to explore, who needs art? Staff is friendly and helpful. ▶ (singles €49, doubles €33).

Old Prague Hostel F-2, Praha 1, Benediktská 2, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 82 90 58, nfo@old-praguehostel.com, www.oldpraguehostel.com. Award-winning hostel slap bang in the thick of Prague's nightlife. All entrances are key-coded for security, dorms (max. 8 beds) have lockers and are fairly cramped, but hey, all you're going to do is sleep in there. Plus free internet, TV/DVD lounge, kitchen, breakfast and linen, a 24 hour reception and very friendly staff - the owner's grandmother did all the artwork. ▶ 20 rooms (20 Total rooms). Prices from 21.30 €.

Prague is aptly named the city of a hundred spires, but to the gastronomically inclined it's also known as the city of a thousand restaurants. Prague's cosmopolitan character is reflected by her increasingly international and excellent cuisine, although there are still plenty of tourist traps.

Afghan

Ariana F-2, Praha 1, Rámová 6, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 32 34 38, www.kabulrest.sweb.cz. Superb, especially if it happens to be the chilli chutney or a large plate of aubergines swimming in butter and salt. Ariana's Afghan is slightly spicy, and uses a lot of tomatoes and yoghurt. The portions may be a tad underweight but great Eastern cuisine, at better prices than most. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. (150 - 250Kč).

Kabul Karolina D-4, Praha 1, Karolíny Světlé 14, M Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 23 54 52, kabul.hs@gmail.com, www.kabulrestaurant.cz. Unassuming in appearance, perhaps like the city it's named after, it's the food and the pleasant courtyard seating at this Afghan restaurant that draws in the Czech and foreign crowds. The short menu lists among others kebabs, *kofta* (spicy meatballs) and *ashak*, a delicious dough pocket stuffed with beef, leek, yoghurt and mint. Don't forget to try the *kadu* yoghurt-pumpkin dessert before you leave. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun.

American

Angus Restaurant I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 10, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 602 68 75 12, millennium@angus-farm.cz, www.angus-farm.cz. With a name like that; you can bet on steak, burgers and other menu items that formally moo'ed. Choose from a New York strip or rumpsteak; an Angus burger or an American classic. Good beef in a city where it's hard to find. ▶ Open 08:00 - 21:00. Closed Sat, Sun. 125Kč-646Kč.

Belushi's Bar & Restaurant Praha 2, Odborů 4, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. +420 221 59 53 51, www.mosaichouse.com/prague-bar. Tasty burgers and other good eats, cocktails and entertainment all at Belushi's. The restaurant has a big stage and hosts regular concerts, comedy shows and more, plus big TVs for the sports, but there's also a more mellow dining area. Breakfast, plus non-smoking make this an ideal, central spot for travellers looking for fun. Located in the Mosaic House hotel. ▶ Open 7:00 - 23:00. 160-285 CZK.

Čestr Praha 1, Legerova 75, M Muzeum, tel. +420 222 72 78 51, cestr@ambi.cz, www.ambi.cz. A unique concept in meat tasting - lots of small portions to encourage you to try different cuts and flavours; Čestr is the latest restaurant in the successful Ambiente Group. While its concept may not appeal to (or be understood) by everyone, it is a good place to go to experience different types of beef. The trout, beef ribs and the spinach salad with grilled chicken are all recommended. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:00, Sat 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. 135-418 CZK.

Cowboys Steaks & Cocktails A-1, Praha 1, Nerudova 40, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 296 82 61 07, www.kampagroup.com. Bazaar has morphed into the Kampa Group's sublime version of an American steakhouse. Premium-tequila-laden cowgirls on the bar, quality and affordable cuts of steak, seafood and even lobster (1,250Kč), complementary wine list, myriad salad and side offerings, cool bar, tunes and atmosphere. A fabulous cellar space, classy design, excellent cuisine and staff round out another Kampa success. The primo cafe servesilly coffee, Cream & Dream gelato and more. ▶ Open 12:00 - 01:00. (250 - 750Kč)

Symbol key

	Air conditioning		Credit cards accepted
	Live music		Take away
	Child friendly		Facilities for the disabled
	Non-smoking areas		Guarded parking
	Casino		Nearest metro station
	Outside seating		Fireplace
	Internet		Wi-Fi
	Animal friendly		

Hard Rock Cafe H-3, Praha 1, Malé náměstí 3, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 22 95 29, prague_sales@hardrock.com, www.hardrock.com. Hard Rock Cafe Prague, Europe's largest Hard Rock Cafe, is situated in the four-story, V.J.Rott building with a beautifully decorated neo-Renaissance façade and frescos. The cafe is located in the heart of old Prague less than 50 meters from the famous Old Town Square. The three-level, 1900-square-meter cafe includes two vibrant bars and features a unique compilation of memorabilia from Hard Rock's world-famous collection completed by a 5-meter custom-made chandelier in the shape of a guitar. ▶ Open 11:30 - 01:00. 250 - 490Kč.

Hooters H-5, Praha 2, Vodičkova 12, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 602 79 92 22, reservace@hooters.cz, www.hooters.cz. The ambiguous America restaurant known for its chicken wings (and perhaps its waitresses) has landed in Prague. Unfortunately, while the waitresses seem to be the same; the food has been lacing in a quality. Hopefully it's growing pains and they'll break out of their shell soon. Hooters wings, burgers, onion wings and other hard to find in Prague are here. ▶ Open - Mon, Tue, Wed, Sun 11:00 - 23:00, Thu, Fri, Sat 11:00 - 01:00. 139-299 Kč.

Jáma D-4, Praha 1, V Jámě 7, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 224 22 23 83, info@jamapub.cz, www.jamapub.cz. Music and booze memorabilia from the Ramones to Jack Daniels adorn the walls and ceilings of this, one of Prague's most popular expat destinations. Big, juicy burgers, BLTs and Tex-Mex, as well as cheap local specials, lunch deals and beer. Their Sunday breakfast/brunch deals are large, tasty and have free refills of coffee. ▶ Open 11:00 - 01:00, Sun 11:00 - 00:00. (100 - 250Kč).

Klub Phenomen Praha 5, Nádražní 84, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 774 36 66 36, info@phenomen.cz, www.phenomen.cz. You normally wouldn't head to a club for dinner; but the swank new Klub Phenomen is opening all sorts of entertainment doors. Their burger is being highly recommended, a rarity in Prague. The proper menu items are a bit better quality and value than the "light bites" on offer. For a semi-relaxed dinner, get there between 19:00-21:00. Oh, and order a cocktail. ▶ Open 19:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 19:00 - 04:00. Closed Mon, Sun. 135-249 Kč.

Mazanej králíček J-3, Praha 1, Hybernská 32, M Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 24 70 22, mazanejkralicek@email.cz. Pulp Fiction fans, or anyone looking for some American food should head on over to Jack Rabbit Slim's. Also called Mazaný Králíček (shrewd bunny rabbit), don't expect waitresses dressed as dead celebrities or vanilla cokes. Here you can get a good grilled goat cheese appetizer or salmon steak, along with burgers and jalapeno poppers. Service can be slow, and the kitchen hit or miss, but no gangsters in view and there's a club in the basement. ▶ Open 11:00 - 05:00, Fri 11:00 - 06:00, Sat 18:00 - 06:00, Sun 18:00 - 05:00. 159-300 Kč.

Food with a view

Il Giardino Praha 5, Mozartova 1 (Mövenpick Hotel), M Anděl, tel. (+420) 257 15 42 62, hotel.prague@moevenpick.com, www.moevenpick-prague.com. Il Giardino is a hotel restaurant with a little flair, created mostly by the rooftop view over Prague, but also by their varied Mediterranean menu. ▶ Open 05:30 - 10:30, 12:00 - 23:00. (400 - 1.000Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒ ☓ ☔

Petrínské Terasy A-4, Praha 1, Seminářská zahrada 13, tel. (+420) 257 32 06 88, restaurant@petrinsketerasy.cz, www.petrinsketerasy.cz. The restaurant with one of the best views of Prague sits halfway up Petřín Hill and is furnished in a Slovak country cottage kind of way. Cuisine is the somewhat traditional international and Czech variety, and live dulcimer music accompanies dinner. Take the funicular to the Nebozizek stop to get here. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00, Sat, Sun 11:00 - 23:00. (160 - 280Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒ ☓ ☔

Zlatá Praha E-1, Praha 1, nám. Curieových 43/5 (InterContinental Hotel), M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 296 63 09 14, prague@ihg.com, www.zlatapraharestaurant.cz. From this vantage point you'll be able to see a fair share of the city's 100 spires. One the city's most renowned restaurants, Golden Prague offers a changing menu of international and Czech nouvelle cuisine, business lunches for the more budget conscious gourmet, and a Sunday brunch accompanied by live jazz. ▶ Open 18:00 - 23:30, Sun 11:00 - 15:00 & 18:00 - 23:30. Open 12:00 - 15:00; 18:00 - 23:30. (500 - 800Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒ ☓ ☔

Zvonice I-4, Praha 1, Jindřišská věž, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 22 00 09, www.restaurantzvonice.cz. If you're looking for something different and don't have a fear of heights, then head to the top three floors of this Gothic bell tower, complete with 15th century bell. Zvonice is decorated with giant oak beams and serves everything from snails, carpaccio, steak and fish to classic Czech dishes. Don't miss the view from the gallery up top. Gorgeous and exceedingly posh. Lunch menu for 290Kč. ▶ Open 11:30 - 24:00. (400 - 750Kč). ☎ ☑

U Malého Glenu B-3, Praha 1, Karmelitská 23, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 53 17 17, malyglen@malyglen.cz, www.malyglen.cz. Renowned for the tiny though classy jazz joint downstairs, the street level bar has entertaining barmen, free-flowing beer and cocktails, and good food. Czech-Mex standards jostle for space with salads, sandwiches and hot pitas, although the menu has no breakfast dishes, except (Bohemia) bagels. Kitchen closes at 24:00. ▶ Open 10:00 - 02:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 02:30. (50 - 300Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒

Argentinean

La Boca I-3, Praha 1, Truhlářská 10, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 31 20 73, restaurant@laboca.cz, www.laboca.cz. La Boca, junior to the Hotel Salvaor next door, serves up large and value-filled Argentinean dishes, making for a good option when you fancy a touch of flair without making your wallet feel like you're purchasing a ticket to Argentina. Within the expected rustic décor and brightly muralled walls the over-worked staff try their best and actually remain friendly. ▶ Open 09:00 - 23:00. (150 - 350Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒ ☓ ☔

La Casa Argentina F-2, Praha 1, Dlouhá 35, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 31 15 12 / (+420) 602 36 00 60, info@lacasaargentina.cz, www.lacasaargentina.cz. A labyrinthine homage to comfort and cuisine with added spice from tango dancers, a toucan and unique swing seats at the cellar bar. Service is impeccable and the signature Pampas-raised Argentinean beef cooked to perfection (*asado*) at the open grill (*parilla*). With a non-smoking winter garden, sports corridor with TVs and a wine cellar, this luxurious new addition to Prague's fine dining scene is set to cruise forward. ▶ Open 11:00 - 02:00. (200 - 750Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒ ☓ ☔

Bakeries & Sandwiches

Paneria D-2, Praha 1, Kaprova 3, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 82 79 12 / (+420) 724 32 66 16, paneria.04@eureca-shops.cz, www.paneria.cz. Paneria is a chain of bakeries with a tasty range of sweet and savoury snacks; including pastries, sandwiches, soups and bread that fuels you up. The pasta is not known for its value or flavour however. Fresh and fast. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00. Also at F-3, Nekázanka 19; I-4, Vodičkova 33; E-2, Dlouhá 50 and many other locations. (40 - 100Kč). ☎ ☑

Subway I-5, Praha 1, Štěpánská 51, M Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 21 44 17, www.subwaysandwiches.cz. Subway ensures your sub in Prague is the same as in Paris, France or Paris, Texas so their quality hot and cold subs, myriad of dressings, salad accessories, the huge catering sandwich, cookies and frequent fliers schemes are all available here. Plus *pivo* - of course. ISIC cardholder discounts apply. ▶ Open 08:00 - 22:00, Fri 08:00 - 00:00, Sat 10:00 - 00:00, Sun 10:00 - 22:00. Also at B-2, Karmelitská 28. (59 - 148Kč). ☎ ☑

Balkan

Gitanes A-2, Praha 1, Tržiště 7, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 53 01 63, info@gitanes.cz, www.gitanes.cz. A vast and fairly expensive selection of local and international wines precede a vastly unusual menu for a Prague restaurant. Octopus and mussels vie for space with veal and lamb, served in a marked Balkan slant, see *sač, kajmak* and *sarma sauerkraut*. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00. (185 - 435Kč). ☎ ☑

Luka Lu G-4, Praha 1, Újezd 33, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 21 23 88, info@lukalu.cz, www.lukalu.cz. Balkan and Italian inspired meals; coupled with warm, laid-back service makes Luka Lu a great choice for a nice, relaxed evening. Their fun interior and excellent back terrace add to the ambience. Choose octopus, seafood, lamb or pasta. ▶ Open 11:00 - 24:00. 115-380Kč. ☎ ☑

Breakfast

Bohemia Bagel A-4, Praha 1, Masná 2, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 81 25 60, bagelmasna@gmail.com, www.bohemibagel.cz. The original. Internet bar, child play room, and all the bagels and other breakfast goodies your hungry belly craves. A laundry list of sandwiches, grilled items, soups and desserts for the rest of the day. ▶ Open 8:00 - 21:30. Also at Dukelských Hrdinů 48 / Šimáčkova 21, Prague 7, tel. 220 80 65 41. Open 07:00 - 24:00, Sat, Sun 08:00 - 24:00.

Venue 73 I-1, Praha 7, Veletřní 73, M Vltavská, tel. (+420) 233 31 36 96 / (+420) 739 59 28 66, venue73@venue73.com. Cheap Czech and full English (99Kč), with English bacon & sausages plus Colman's and Branston pickle. They have finally got their Indian kitchen going apparently. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:30. (30 - 200Kč).

Brewery restaurants

Novoměstský pivovar I-5, Praha 1, Vodičkova 20, M Můstek, tel. (+420) 222 23 24 48 / (+420) 602 45 92 16, sales@npivovar.cz, www.npivovar.cz. A 340-seat restaurant, the New Town Brewery, not surprisingly, serves its own brews. This could easily have become a theme restaurant, because it can and does cater to large parties, so come early or book ahead. Lots of smoked meat and traditional dishes. Try the pork knuckle. ▶ Open 10:00 - 23:30, Sat 11:30 - 23:30, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. (160 - 500Kč). ☎ ☑ ☒ ☓ ☔

U Fleků H-5, Praha 1, Křemencova 11, M Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 93 40 19, ufleku@ufleku.cz, www.ufleku.cz. A tourist trap since they started brewing their dark, rich aromatic beer on this spot in 1499. The brew is worth the trip in itself, and should be accompanied by hearty pub food. The loud and boisterous crowds of tourists and locals are a show worth watching as everyone and his tour guide treks through. ▶ Open 10:00 - 23:00. (85 - 320Kč). ☎ ☑

U Pinkasů E-4, Praha 1, Jungmannovo nám. 16, M Můstek, tel. (+420) 221 11 11 50 / (+420) 602 66 71 70, provoz@upinkasu.cz, www.upinkasu.cz. The presence of locals is encouraging in this beer hall whose not unimpressive claim to fame is that of being the first *pivnice* in Prague to have Pilsner Urquell on draught. A commemorative plaque and a tap mark the spot where this country's most renowned beer began to flow in 1843. In today's establishment you'll find a courtyard terrace and two floors of beer swilling and sausage eating. More elegant no-smoking rooms are available for dining; the menu, although traditional, is uninspired. ▶ Open 10:00 - 03:00. (150 - 200Kč). ☎ ☑

Chinese

Huang He K-7, Praha 10, Vršovická 1, tel. (+420) 271 74 66 51, h@huanghe.cz, www.huanghe.cz. Chinese as good as it should be; they spice the food up properly then warn Czech clients not to order that dish. Enjoy the hot and sour soup, but everything else on the menu is worth ordering, too. Tram N°6 from from I.P. Pavlova to the Nádraží Vršovice stop. Reservations recommended. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. Also in Prague 9, Kolbenova 1, tel. 283 89 05 18. (100 - 300Kč). ☎ ☑ ☓

Peking Praha 4 - Pankrác, Pujmanové 10, M Pankrác, tel. (+420) 241 73 06 88, info@peking.cz, www.pekingrestaurant.cz. You're in Prague, not Beijing. But if a craving for Chinese food suddenly strikes, head out into the hinterlands of Prague 4 for what most will say is the best Chinese in town. Dim sum, har kau and their spring rolls are excellent starters, while main course hits include Peking duck (be hungry!) and prawns with mango. The restaurant is huge and groups are very welcome. Lazy Susans sit on the tables - perfect for sharing. ▶ Open 11:30 - 15:30 & 17:30-23:00. (139 - 599Kč). ☎ ☑



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Czech

Bílý Koníček Praha 1, Staroměstské náměstí 20, M Staroměstské, tel. +420 221 42 11 60, reservace@bilykonicek.com, www.bilykonicek.com. Fine Czech cuisine with an international touch is what you'll discover in the hallowed halls of Bílý Koníček. Sirlain in cream sauce and Prague beef goulash are both enriching choices, while on the lighter side choose from one of their seafood or salad dishes. The upscale furnishings nestled in the underground cellars will charm you. ▶ Open 11:00 - 04:00. 245-495 CZK.

Budweiser Budvar Restaurant Praha 6, Aviatická 1092/8, tel. (+420) 224 24 25 77, info@restaurant-letiste.cz, www.restaurant-letiste.cz. Step out of the airport for what may be your last chance for Czech food and beer. Located in the shopping centre next to the Marriott, prices are a bit higher than in town, but it's worth grabbing a meal here versus the vastly inflated prices of the airport itself. Their lunch specials are a good deal, and they offer free WIFI. ▶ Open 10:30 - 22:00. (120 - 440Kč). ☎ 📞 📺

Fama Praha 1, Vladislavova 18, M Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 94 93 05, [vladislavova@famarestaurace.cz](http://www.famarestaurace.cz), <http://www.famarestaurace.cz/>. An ambitious menu, fresh Pilsner Urquell and warm interiors makes Fama a great stop when you are about town. The lunch specials are a good deal and dishes range from venison to pasta to Czech specials. ▶ Open , Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 10:30 - 24:00, Fri 10:30 - 02:00, Sat 11:30 - 02:00, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. 135-299 Kč.

Kolkovna Celnice I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 4, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 21 22 40, [celnice@kolkovna.cz](http://www.kolkovna.cz), www.kolkovna.cz. An excellent, upmarket restaurant owned by the Pilsner brewery decorated with period photos and brewing equipment. The menu includes all the Czech standards including pork knuckle and rabbit, but Celnice also serves some more imaginative and vegetarian options. Unfortunately, the large space can get noisy when the downstairs bar turns up the volume later in the evening. ▶ Open 11:00 - 24:00. (150 - 335Kč). ☎ 📞 📺

Lokál I-3, Praha 1, Dlouhá 33, M Náměstí Republiky, tel. +420 222 31 62 65, lokal@ambi.cz, www.ambi.cz. "Old Czech pub made fresh" would be the best way to describe Lokál by the always popular Ambiente restaurant group. Basic Czech food is deliciously prepared; the restaurant has a faux old pub look and the service is good - everything you'd want in a Czech pub that's almost impossible to find. Tank Pilsner Urquell too. ▶ Open 11:00 - 01:00, Sat 12:00 - 01:00, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. 99-269 CZK.

Svateho Ignace H-5, Praha 2, Ječná 5, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. +420 224 91 95 55, info@svatyignac.cz, www.svatyignac.cz. Stop by for a super lunch deal or dinner of Czech specialties. Feast on chicken schnitzel with potato salad, stuffed pork or bring a friend for their traditional Bohemian feast. A great location near Karlovo náměstí makes this a convenient and affordable choice. ▶ Open 10:00 - 23:00, Sat, Sun 14:00 - 23:00.

Švejk D-2, Praha 1, Široká 20, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 81 39 64, svejkrest@volny.cz, www.svejk.cz. Someone spent some money (and not much by the look of it) to make a new restaurant look old - basically what a beer hall would look like in the Czech pavilion at the World Expo. That said, Švejk restaurants are always good for traditional food like duck, pork and wild boar served with dumplings, cabbage and a local beer. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. (100 - 300Kč). ☎

U Černého slunce E-3, Praha 1, Kamzíkova 9, M Náměstí Republiky, tel. +420 224 22 47 46, ucernehoslunce@ucernehoslunce.cz, www.ucernehoslunce.cz. A rustic atmosphere, perfect for dining on tasty Czech food. U Černého slunce is conveniently located close to Old Town Square and perfect when cravings for a Bohemian platter filled with roast pork, sausage and dumplings hits. Other tried and true favourites include Bohemian goulash; or try something lighter like the grilled trout. Coupled with a Czech beer or wine, it'll be a meal to remember. ▶ Open 11:00 - 22:00. 195-490 CZK.

U Modré růže E-4, Praha 1, Rytířská 16, M Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 22 58 73, restaurant@umodruze.cz, www.umodruze.cz. The Blue Rose serves refined Czech dishes in an antique setting to make you feel like a lord or lady. The candle-lit 15th century brick cellar is an ideal place for a romantic dinner with your sweetheart. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:30, Sun 17:00 - 23:30. (350 - 750Kč). ☎ 📞 📺

U Ševce Matouše A-1, Praha 1, Loretánské nám. 4, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 220 51 45 36, restaurant@usevcematouse.cz, www.usevcematouse.cz. Matthew the Cobbler has seen some famous people, like the Spanish Queen and the Pitt-Jolie couple. Mere mortals head there for the Czech specialties like Svičková Stroganoff and Staročeská bašta, knedlík, zelí (Bohemian plate with dumplings and cabbage.) The beautiful dining room, so close to Prague Castle, make this a good choice for an elegant Prague night out. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. (169-349 CZK).

Dining & Dancing

Folklore Garden Na Zlíchově 18, tel. (+420) 724 33 43 40, info@folklore-garden.cz, www.folklore-garden.cz. If you're not one to sit still during a meal, then this is the restaurant for you. At Folklore Garden, you're fed large portions of traditional Czech food and beer, and simultaneously entertained with a two and one-half hour show with live music and folk dancing. Great fun if you're in for a country-style party; active participation is welcomed. Folklore Garden is south of Smíchov; tram N°12, 14 or 20 to Hlubočepy. ▶ Open 20:00 - 22:30. (560 - 1050Kč). ☎ 📞 📺

French

Café de Paris Praha 1, Maltézské nám. 4, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 603 16 07 18, cafede-paris@cafede-paris.cz, www.cafede-paris.cz. For a fresh, authentic dining experience, you shouldn't go wrong at Café de Paris. A small, rotating menu of seasonal dishes means you'll always get the freshest of the fresh. The one constant is their special Entrecote Café de Paris, prepared according to a secret recipe. Yummy desserts, wine and cocktails, plus two gardens - Café de Paris is a nice respite no matter the time of day. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00. 165-269Kč. ☎ 📞 📺

Creperie U Slepé kočičky I-1, Praha 7, Milady Horákové 38, M Vltavská, tel. +420 233 37 18 55, slepakocicka@volny.cz, www.slepakocicka.cz. If you find your self in the Holešovice neighborhood, make time for a galette break at U Slepé kočičky. These savory crepes made from buckwheat come stuffed with fresh and flavorful fillings like chicken, blue cheese and bacon or ham and cheese with a fabulous mushroom sauce. For a more up class dining experience, try the salmon fillet or Argentinean entrecote. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. 104-209 CZK. ☎ 📺

Francouská restaurace Art Nouveau F-3, Praha 1, Náměstí Republiky 5, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 00 27 70, restaurant@obecnidum.cz, www.francouskarestaurace.cz. Superb French (and some Czech) gourmet dishes from this restaurant's award winning chefs. Mussels, rabbit, *foie gras* and duck all make delightful appearances in one of the world's masterpieces of art nouveau architecture (the Municipal House building itself) and interior. Lunch specials and a concert package lower prices somewhat, and try the Jazz Brunch on the first Sunday of each month. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00. Open 12:00 - 23:00. (600 - 2,000Kč). ☎ 📞 📺

NEW

Le Saint Tropez Praha 1, Palác Kinských, Staroměstské náměstí 12, M Staroměstská, tel. +420 224 81 07 50, restaurant.francais@seznam.cz, www.restaurant-st-tropez.cz. Palác Kinských is the location of Prague's newest French restaurant, serving up the country's best cuisine from the south of France in a brick-lined dining room with modern touches. The wine list is gorgeous and for food delight in typical dishes such as foie gras or duck breast or have their French chef prepare for you the restaurant's specialty - a real bouillabaisse from Marseille served in the traditional way. You'll need to reserve that 24 hours in advance though. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. 230-1000 CZK.



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New French restaurant which is located in the beautiful palace Kinských offers traditional French cuisine with specialties from the French Riviera and a wide range of excellent French wines. Open from 11AM to 11PM.



In addition to typical dishes such as foie gras or duck breast our French chef can prepare for you our speciality - a real bouillabaisse from Marseille served in the traditional way! Reservations are required 24 hours in advance.



Sarah Bernhardt I-3, Praha 1, U Obecního domu 1, [M] Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 19 59 00, foffice@hotel-paris.cz, www.hotel-paris.cz. Hotel dining is reaching dizzy heights in Prague and the art nouveau design of this restaurant is divinely matched by Chef Karel Hynek's inspired menus. Offering set meals for the undecided or choose from poached trout or slow roasted lamb. Live music every Thursday & Friday evening. ▶ Open 6:30 - 23:00. Open 06:30 - 10:00 (10:30 Sat & Sun), 12:00 - 16:00 & 18:00 - 23:00. (500 - 900Kč) (550 - 1,200Kč). [i] [cc] [f] [s]

Greek

Kri-Kri J-5, Praha 2, Korunní 48, [M] Náměstí Míru, tel. (+420) 222 540 400, taverna@kri-kri.cz, www.kri-kri.cz. It's all Greek to them. From the food to the service, Kri-Kri is about as authentic as you can get off the island. Be prepared for a long evening and don't go in starving as the service isn't the best. However, once your food arrives you'll be wallowing in happiness over their stifado, shrimp saganaki and tzatziki. Their Greek house wines are surprisingly cheap and good. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 145-210 Kč.

Olympos K-4, Praha 3, Kubelíkova 9, [M] Jiřího z Poděbrad, tel. (+420) 222 72 22 39, rezervace@taverna-olympus.eu, www.tavernaolympus.cz. Rightfully the most famous Greek restaurant in Prague. Excellent Grecian starters, a haul of fresh seafood, and friendly, hard working staff. Superb. And the garden here is one of the best kept secrets in Prague and has a great playground to keep the kids happy. ▶ Open 11:30 - 24:00. (200 - 500Kč). [i] [cc] [f]

Indian

Chanchala I-3, Praha 1, Náměstí Republiky 1, [M] Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 225 77 11 50, info@chanchala.cz, www.chanchala.cz. Serving specialties from southern India, Chanchala is a fun place to get your fill of vindaloo, masala or papadums. They offer varying levels of spiciness and the prices aren't too bad either. Inside Palladium shopping centre on the second floor. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. 90kč-225kč.

Masala J-5, Praha 2, Mánesova 13, [M] Muzeum, tel. (+420) 222 251 601, info@masala.cz, www.masala.cz. Authentic (no beef) and not (dried fruit in the samosas) at the same time, but Masala has an owner who understands customer service and therefore whatever quibbles you have with it today, tomorrow they may be gone. The spice quotient is up to you and the vindaloo was delicious without being nuclear. With homemade ingredients and divine desserts; Masala is looking like one of the best Indian options in town. Reservations recommended - it is very small. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:00, Sat 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 12:30 - 23:00. (100 - 250Kč). [i] [f] [s]

The Pind Praha 3, Korunní 67, [M] Jiřího z Poděbrad, tel. +420 222 51 60 85, thepind@email.cz, www.thepind.cz. Oh the heat. After years of dulled down Indian food catering to sensitive Czech palates, The Pind storms in and sets us on fire. Tandoor specials, chicken tikka masala, lamb vindaloo, bangon bharta, we can't stop. Try their all-you-can-eat lunch buffet for 109 CZK. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00, Sat 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 13:00 - 22:00. 140-265 CZK.

International

Bellevue C-3, Praha 1, Smetanovo nábřeží 18, [M] Národní třída, tel. (+420) 222 22 04 53, bellevue@zatisigroup.cz, www.zatisigroup.cz. A fantastic setting, looking out to Charles Bridge, the castle and the Vltava, and a classic atmosphere sets the scene for you to feel dead posh if you want and if you can afford it. Chef Petr Bures prepares dishes like fillet of fallow deer with rose hip sauce, caramelised pears, homemade spätzle and wild mushrooms. Try their jazz brunch on Sundays. ▶ Open 12:00 - 15:00 & 17:30 - 23:00. (1,000 - 2,000Kč). [i] [cc] [f] [s]

Brasserie Praha I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 8 (Prague Marriott Hotel), [M] Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 88 12 12, www.marriottprague.com. This subtle space inside the Prague Marriott is classy yet laid back. Dishes from the open kitchen are simple, delicious and classically international, heavy on the French. Top choices include the lamb shank with creamed spinach and crushed potatoes and the French onion soup. ▶ Open 06:30 - 11:00 & 12:00-23:00. (195 - 625Kč). [cc] [f]

Caffrey's E-3, Praha 1, Staroměstské nám. 10, [M] Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 82 80 31, info@caffreys.cz, www.caffreys.cz. Good service and a great location on Staroměstské nám. make this a popular Irish pub for many, including large parties of stag nighters. Prices are more favourable here than other Old Town spots; plus they offer an excellent food menu (try the authentic Irish breakfast), first rate Guinness (65 Kč), Magners Irish cider (85 Kč), Walker's crisps and more to make you feel right at home. A good venue to watch all the major (GAA too) sporting events. ▶ Open 09:00 - 01:00, Sat 09:00 - 02:00. [i] [cc] [f]

Černý slon F-2, Praha 1, Týnská 1, [M] Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 32 15 21, www.hotelcernyslone.cz. For a taste of medieval living, dine below the vaulted ceilings of this small restaurant in an ancient building across the narrow street from Týn Church. Feast on wild boar, venison, and classic European dishes or just opt for the Old Town plate consisting of pork, roast duck, sausages, dumplings and cabbage. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. (100 - 400Kč). [i] [cc] [f]

Esprit Orangerie Praha 4, Na Pankráci 15/1684, [M] Vysehrad, tel. (+420) 296 89 50 30, www.holidayinn.cz. Modern Czech and international cuisine served up in a lovely designer space. Esprit Orangerie is a decidedly different hotel restaurant, worthy of a visit even if you aren't staying at the Holiday Inn. Czech specialties like beef and duck are beautifully presented; and their dessert chef obviously enjoys his job. ▶ Open 06:30 - 23:00. 340-590kč. [i] [cc] [f] [s]

Hergetova Cihelna C-2, Praha 1, Cihelná 2b, [M] Malostranská, tel. (+420) 296 82 61 03, kontakt@cihelna.com, www.kampagroup.com. Part of the Kampa Group of restaurants, this is a winner in every respect. A huge menu of Czech and international favourites tantalises, with great Neapolitan pizza's thrown in for good measure. Sunday brunch with professionals on hand to look after your kids while you relax. We love it and you will too. Check out the upstairs lounge complete with pool table and big screen. ▶ Open 11:30 - 01:00. (70 - 400Kč). [i] [cc] [f] [s]

Home Kitchen Praha 1, Jungmannova 8, [M] Můstek, tel. +420 734 71 42 27, info@homekitchen.cz, www.homekitchen.cz. An excellent lunch break, Home Kitchen welcomes you with their farmhouse décor and seasonal menu of soups, salads and breads. Choose from the daily soups, a salad, like the rocket with strawberries and almonds, or a cheese or grilled veggie plate. Fresh, home-cooked food and friendly staff make this a delightful Prague kitchen. ▶ Open 7:30 - 19:00, Sat 8:30 - 15:00. Closed Sun. 75-180 CZK.

Hybernia I-3, Praha 1, Hyberská 7, [M] Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 22 60 04, hybernia@hybernia.cz, www.hybernia.cz. To see the wait staff in action is like watching ballet with the fast forward button jammed down - understandable when you see the queue at lunchtime. Baked, boiled, fried and grilled meat rules the realm here whether it be beef, pork, duck or other poultry. Vegetarian dishes are also available but we suspect it's just an attempt to be politically correct. ▶ Open 08:00 - 23:30, Sat, Sun 10:30 - 23:30. (100 - 250Kč). [i] [cc] [f] [s]

Kobe I-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 11, [M] Muzeum, tel. (+420) 224 26 72 48, info@koberestaurant.cz, www.koberestaurant.cz. Find the secret entrance and head downstairs into this cozy spot where the kitchen is a bit geographically challenged. An Argentinean sushi restaurant doesn't come along all that often, so stop by for a nice sushi platter or special Japanese Kobe beef, the restaurants two specialties. Salads, fish, pasta and lamb can be had as well so all dining moods can be catered to. Has a smoking and non-smoking section. ▶ Open 11:30 - 24:00. 200-750 Kč.

Krystal Mozaika Bistro Praha 8, Sokolovská 99, [M] Křižíkova, tel. +420 222 31 81 52, www.krystalbistro.cz. A variety of meaty and American dishes; the burger is a good choice and both the beef and the veal dishes have been enjoyed. Krystal does desserts fairly well, especially the carrot cake. Be sure to check the chalkboard for the daily specials - good value and usually innovative choices. A casual place, service is friendly. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00, Sat 12:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun. 109-319 CZK.

La Galerie H-7, Praha 2, Na Slupi 2b, [M] Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 236 07 10 28, info@lagalerie.cz, www.lagalerie.cz. Simple quality is how best to describe La Galerie. The menu has a small selection, carefully chosen and prepared by Chef Mikuláš Gottwald. Gottwald has worked at top British and Austrian restaurants and combines flavors gloriously. Take the slightly boiled lobster tail with steamed lettuce salad and mango in a cognac mousse, for example. Massive wine list too. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. Czech cuisine is served from 11:00-23:00; an international menu from 18:00-24:00. Starters: 300kč, Mains: 500kč, Desserts: 250kč.

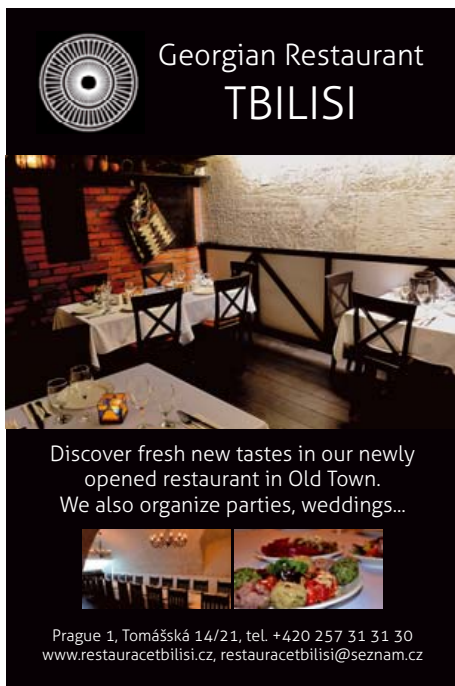
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ing one; Pod křídlem noci (under the wing of night) is a concept restaurant in which you eat in total darkness. Visually impaired staff takes care of you in the "world of darkness" section. Sitting you down, directing you to your food, explaining what things are and helping you back out again. There's also a "world of light" dining area for those who prefer a little less mystery with their meal. ▶ Open 11:00 - 16:00, Thu, Fri 11:00 - 23:00. Closed Sat, Sun. 790Kč, 3-course set menus, drinks not included.

Rocky O'Reilly's Praha 1, Štěpánská 32, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 222 23 10 60, info@rockyoreillys.cz, www.rockyoreillys.cz. Nothing rescues an all-nighter like a massive Irish breakfast and Rocky O'Reilly's is the place to get it. You can get stuffed other times of the day as well with their massive platters of food including ribs and chicken wings. In true international style, you can get a curry, fajitas or cottage pie. Friendly staff, plus lots of TV's showing live sports and you may be here for a couple of meals. ▶ Open 10:00 - 02:00. 165-395 Kč. ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑

Sherwood I-4, Praha 1, Opletalova 19, M Muzeum, tel. +420 222 21 17 54, restaurant@sherwoodbar.cz, www.sherwoodbar.cz/en/restaurant-sherwood/. This restaurant of Czech specialties will win you over with their big menu of meat; cooked your way. Or go for broke with a great Czech roasted duck or pork knee. Start with the soup, and they also have a long wine and cocktail list. ▶ Open 10:00 - 00:30, Sat 12:00 - 00:30, Sun 17:00 - 23:00. 145-625 CZK. ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑

Svatá Klára Praha 7, U Trojského zámku 35, tel. (+420) 233 54 01 73, resvataklara@seznam.cz, www.svataklara.cz. For something completely different, descend 16m underground in this natural cave made into a wine cellar and restaurant. The rough stone is cheered up with classical furniture and artworks, and the classy menu features Czech game dishes such as pheasant breast with forest herbs and sage. Join the likes of Brangelina and find Svatá Klára near Trojska castle, a short taxi ride from town. ▶ Open 18:00 - 01:00. (300 - 1,440Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑

NEW
Tbilisi Praha 1, Tomášská 21, M Malostranská, tel. +420 257 31 31 30, restauracetbilisi@seznam.cz, www.restauracetbilisi.cz. Gorgeous newly opened Georgian restaurant. Discover fresh new tastes, like the typical lobo, a dish made from beans or hinkali - big, juicy dumplings. In addition to their dining room, they also have space for parties and weddings. Georgian wines are also highly underrated, so be sure to explore Tbilisi's wine list. ▶ 240-770 CZK.

U Zlaté studně B-1, Praha 1, U Zlaté studně 4, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 53 33 22, restaurant@goldenwell.cz, www.terasauzlatestudne.cz. U Zlaté studně is still making waves in Prague's restaurant scene after a successful opening. Sitting high above the city thanks to its roof-top elevation, it still manages to snuggle beneath the castle, and the classic architectural lines set the scene for quality cuisine and vintage wines. ▶ Open 07:00 - 23:00. (400 - 690Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑

Vítava H-2, Praha 1, nám. Curieových 100, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 234 61 41 11, reservations@hotelpresident.cz, www.hotelpresident.cz. The appropriately named restaurant has panoramic views of the river, a suitably designed interior and creative menu to match. Steak with roasted shallots served with mashed potato, monkfish, Tandoori and delicious desserts to match the good wine list. ▶ Open 12:00 - 15:00 & 18:30-23:30. ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑

Italian

Bilkova 13 E-2, Praha 1, Bilkova 13, M Staroměstská, tel. +420 224 82 92 54, reservation@bilkova13.cz, www.bilkova13.cz. A beautiful space with a gorgeous menu, Bilkova 13 is a relaxed, upscale dining experience. Chef Krejci worked many years in Italy and has brought the simple, homemade flavours to Prague. Classic pastas and creative beef dishes are great choices, and be sure to savour the wine list. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. 140-440 Kč.

Kogo E-3, Praha 1, Havelská 27, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 224 82 93 55, langolo@langolo.cz, www.kogo.cz. Kogo is one of the best restaurants in Prague, for all number of reasons. Location, service, consistent high quality food, and ambience. The atmosphere is trendy and businesslike, full of movers and shakers enjoying good pasta, seafood and one of the best wine lists in the city. We love it. ▶ Open 08:00 - 23:00. Also at F-3, Praha 1, Na příkopě 22 (Slovanský Dům). (120 - 250Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑

La Finestra in Cucina D-3, Praha 1, Platněnská 13, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 32 53 25, reservations@lafinestra.cz, www.lafinestra.cz. Looking into this kitchen window (which is a loose translation of the restaurant's name) and you'll see a rustic atmosphere and people enjoying some good cooking. Risotto with truffles and the chocolate cake with truffles are both outstanding. And if it is meat you are wanting; a nice man will bring you a platter full of it, for you to select your own veal, beef or what have you. If you really want to watch the chefs at work, sit in the back. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. 245-495 Kč.

Osteria De Clara Praha 10, Mexická 7, tel. (+420) 271 72 65 48, daclara@seznam.cz, www.daclara.com. A not-so-good location on the Vinohrady/Vršovice border is an unfortunate fact of this nice Italian eatery. Small menu of basic hearty meals; stuffed zucchini, rigatoni ragu, pork fillet. All are well-prepared and a relaxed atmosphere makes this an excellent quiet spot. Let's hope it doesn't stay too quiet. ▶ Open 11:30 - 15:00, 18:00 - 23:00, Sat 12:00 - 15:30, 18:00-23:00. Closed Sun. 130-250Kč.

Japanese & Korean

Hanabi Sushi House J3, Praha 1, Petřská 11, M Florenc, tel. (+420) 224 32 46 34, info@ihanabi.cz, www.ihanabi.cz. DIY elegance at this new hidden Japanese joint. Lovely interiors boast warm colors enlivened with bonsai and bamboo trees. Choose shabu shabu or sukiyaki and a selection of fresh, raw vegetables and meats will be brought to your table; which conveniently has it's own cooker. Prefer to watch someone else sweat over the stove? Sit at the bar and order teppan-yaki; literally grilled on an iron plate - and right in front of you. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00. 460-1650Kč. ☎

Man-na E-1, Praha 1, U Milosrdných 10, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 32 01 01, kimexsro@kimexsro.cz. A new Korean restaurant serving up spicy kimchi, bulgogi (beef BBQ) and other Korean specialties such as snails and octopus to stir fry and glazed pigs' feet. If that doesn't tempt you, perhaps their 500Kč/hr karaoke room might. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 18:00 - 23:00. Open 11:30 - 15:00, 18:00 - 23:00; 18:00 - 23:00 Sun. (200 - 350Kč). ☑

Susharna A-2, Praha 1, Tržiště 12, M Malostranská, tel. +420 257 21 97 59, sushi@susharna.cz, www.susharna.cz. Sushi lovers, head to Malá Strana to get your fill of creative cooking. The Volcano Maki is fun, or go traditional with Nigiri Magura. Non-sushi fans can dig into the Teriyaki Saki or Una Ju. Save room for the yummy coconut balls and mango sachets. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. 145-290 Kč.

Kosher

King Solomon D-2, Praha 1, Široká 8, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 81 87 52, info@kosher.cz, www.kosher.cz. In the heart of Prague's legendary Jewish quarter, this strictly kosher restaurant is notable for its pleasant, light interior, and courteous, attentive service. They also prepare special Shabbat meals, which they will deliver to any hotel in Prague. ▶ Open 12:00 - 22:30, Fri 12:00 - 17:00. Closed Sat. Open 12:00 - 23:00; Friday dinner only by reservation, Saturday lunch reservations only. (500 - 1,000Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑

Latin American

Ambiente Brasileiro E-3, Praha 1, U Radnice 8, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 23 44 74, brasileiro@ambi.cz, www.ambi.cz. Don't be alarmed when a man brandishing a large skewer of meat appears before you and starts slicing bloody chunks of beef onto your plate. In addition to the churrasco grill, delicious pastas and appetisers are also offered with Brazilian flair - and it's eat all you possibly can, so take some time. If you pay up before 18:00, the price is 445Kč for the meat churrasco. ▶ Open 11:00 - 24:00. Also at F-3, Na Příkopě 22 - Slovanský Dům, tel. 221 45 12 00. (225 - 545Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑

Lebanese

El Emir Praha 1, Václavské Náměstí 1, M Mústek, tel. +420 224 28 10 99, elemir@pcgpraha.cz, www.elemir.cz. Divine food in a gorgeous setting - the new El Emir is bringing the best of Lebanese cuisine to Prague. Sample the goodness from their list of more than 80 Mezzas; enjoy fresh fish or lamb and a host of other delicacies from the country. Located in the Palac Koruna passageway. ▶ Open 10:00 - 24:00. 240-490 CZK.

Medieval

U Cisařů Praha 1, Loretánská 5, tel. (+420) 220 51 84 84, ucisar@kvpvgastro.cz, www.ucisar.cz. Top-class medieval dining in the centre of cobbled, old world Prague. A beautiful Gothic wine cellar is at your disposal to really make you feel that your rightful place is down the road at the castle. The chefs have catered various state dinners, and the prices tend to illustrate this. ▶ Open 09:00 - 01:00. (250 - 950Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑



U Sádli I-3, Praha 1, Klimentůvská 2, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 81 38 74, klimentka@usadli.cz, www.usadli.cz. Gargantuan medieval banqueting (with appropriate carnivorous leanings as well as great fish) served by buxom Hell's Angels in a cavernous remake of the set of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Tankards of ale slapped down in front of you until you scream 'when!' and indulge your Ivanhoe fantasies. Book early or take a battering ram. ▶ Open 11:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 11:00 - 1:00, Sun 12:00 - 24:00. Also at J-5, Praha 2, Balbínova 22. (150 - 300Kč). ☎ ☑ ☑ ☑

Mediterranean

Como I-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 45,  **Muzeum, tel. (+420) 222 24 72 40, eat@Comorestaurant.cz, www.Comorestaurant.cz.** Como is the new Mediterranean restaurant that replaced the Asian one at the Jaita Hotel. Grilled meats and pastas dominate, but there's also a fun tapas menu. The interior is cool and classy; service respectable. The fettuccine with seasonal vegetables, the tuna steak or any of their salads are all recommended. ▶ Open 06:30 - 01:00. (185 - 790Kč).  

Oliva Praha 2, Plavecká 4, tel. (+420) 222 52 02 88, info@olivarestaurant.cz, www.olivarestaurant.cz. The superb Le Bistrot de Marlene is a hard space to fill, but Oliva, while being a wholly different restaurant, has managed to keep folks happy with its Mediterranean flair and flavour. A one-time chef from La Perle de Prague provides a succulent, sense sensation with almost every dish to counter the somewhat twee interior. Theme nights with guest chefs, a good wine list and superb olive oils add to the great service and menu. Tram N° 3, 7, 16, 17, 21 to Vyton. ▶ Open 11:30 - 15:00 & 18:00 - 23:00, Sat 18:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun. Open 11:30 - 15:00; 18:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. (150 - 550Kč).  

Mexican & Tex-Mex


Cantina A-4, Praha 1, Újezd 38,  **Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 31 71 73, www.restauracecantina.cz.** A warm and atmospheric Mexican, serving Texan-sized portions of decent grub and small swimming pool sized margaritas that slip down far too easily. The fajitas are excellent, although we suggest you may want some extra salsa to add some zing. ▶ Open 11:30 - 24:00. (120 - 300Kč).  


Hacienda Mexicana J-2, Praha 1, Klimentůvská 46,  **Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 85 10 95, praha@mexicana.cz, www.mexicana.cz.** The restaurant is loud and not just on your ears. The décor is bright and in your face, and while you can disappear in the labyrinthine rooms, it may also mean the waiters can't find you again. Good Czech-Mex and cocktails are available in this popular though somewhat pricey chain restaurant. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:30. Also at Praha 4, BB Centrum.  



Pakistani




Mailsi Praha 3, Lipanská 1, tel. (+420) 222 71 77 83, info@pakistani-restaurant-mailsi.eu, www.pakistani-restaurant-mailsi.eu. Prague's only sit-down Pakistani restaurant is a leading light for those lusting real curries in their dinner. The service is light yet deliciously attentive. Although still nowhere near the extravagances of most spiced offers in the city, their prices are starting to creep up a little. Take tram N°9 to the Lipanská stop. ▶ Open 12:00 - 15:00 & 18:00 - 23:00. Open 12:00 - 15:00, 18:00 - 23:30. (150 - 400Kč).

Pizza

NEW
500 Off the map from G-1, Praha 6, Na valech 16,  **Hradčanská, tel. +420 724 10 20 30, www.500restaurant.cz.** Pizza places are all over Prague; what's missing is quality, or even decent, ones. If a pizza craving hits, hunt down 500 behind the Hradčanská metro station for some decent pies, in a great relaxed atmosphere. They are big, with thin crusts, a delicate sauce, right amount of cheese, and usually fresh toppings. Hang out and enjoy. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00. 95-145 CZK for pizza.

Colosseum I-4, Praha 1, Vodičkova 32,  **Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 21 49 14, colosseum.vodickova@bakare.cz, www.pizzacolosseum.cz.** A pizza-maker slaving away in front

of the flames of a wood-burning oven is the only spectacle you'll witness at this coliseum. Sample excellent pastas and pizzas made with real mozzarella in a rustic setting. Try the Calabrese, it's what Yanks call a pepperoni pie. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:30. Also at F-3, Vodičkova 32. (100 - 200Kč).  

Giallo Rosa F-3, Praha 1, Jakubská 2,  **Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 604 89 89 89, info@giallorossa.cz, www.giallorossa.cz.** This small take-away place decked out in football scarves serves the closest thing to a New York-style pizza that we've seen in Prague. What's more amazing is that it also provides as much oregano and spicy oil as you need, gratis. ▶ Open - Mon, Tue, Sun 11:30 - 23:00, Wed, Thu, Sat 11:30 - 24:00, Fri 11:30 - 01:00. (From 25Kč/slice).  




Pizza Nuova I-3, Praha 1, Revoluční 1,  **Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 80 33 08, piazzanuova@ambi.cz, www.ambi.cz.** The Ambiente group turn their talented hands to this eat all you can antipasti and/or pizza & pasta restaurant. Well planned location adjacent to the massive shopping centre, the Palladium, set to open late 2007. A huge restaurant with trestle type seating, Ambiente's trademark flair and an extensive Italian and Czech wine list. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:30.  

Seafood


Rybí trh E-2, Praha 1, Týnský dvůr 5,  **Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 602 29 59 11, info@rybitrh.cz, www.rybitrh.cz.** Without a doubt, this restaurant is a fish-lover's paradise. With a choice from live or freshly imported fish, one can swim through this menu with delight knowing whatever is chosen will truly satisfy. Chef Pavel Mares works his magic on the Caribbean Lobster, fresh from the aquarium in any style. St. Jacob's scallops is a speciality only to be savoured, and the imperial mussels truly deserve their name. ▶ Open 11:00 - 24:00. (190 - 890Kč). 

Zdeněk's Oyster Bar Praha 1, Malá Štupartská 5,  **Staroměstská, tel. +420 725 94 62 50, www.oysterbar.cz.** Czechs love seafood - perhaps it comes from living in a landlocked country and the most available fish is carp. At Zdeněk's, you'll find an interior that could have come from Belgium or Paris, an actual oyster bar and really good and fresh seafood. A more than passable lobster roll can be had as well. Service is friendly and knowledgeable, but there are no "freebies" - all the food on your table you will pay for. ▶ 285-1250 CZK.

Spanish & Hispanic

La Bodega Flamenca H-1, Praha 7, Šmeralova 5,  **Vi-tavská, tel. (+420) 233 37 40 75, labodega@seznam.cz, www.labodega.cz.** What could one more naturally expect to find when hanging about in the neighbourhoods of Letna than a colourfully-tiled cellar that replicates the small-dish-rattling ways of a tapas bar? The food is a delight, and the staff are genuinely happy to see you. And should you fancy some salsa on the dance floor rather than on your plate, then this is the place for you. ▶ Open 16:00 - 01:00, Fri, Sat 16:00 - 03:00. (150 - 300Kč).  

Thai

NEW
Bangkok B-2, Praha 1, Josefská 1,  **Malostranská, tel. +420 211 15 13 02, www.padthai.cz.** Czech restaurants tend to take Asian fusion literally; usually by pairing two different cuisines on the same menu. Bangkok chose to tackle Thai and Japanese, and if you avoid the sushi, choosing the Thai specialities instead, you'll have an affordable meal in a central Malá Strana location. Shrimp cakes, spring rolls and green chicken curry are all recommended. ▶ Open 11:00 - 22:00. 109-349 CZK. 



NOI A-4, Praha 1, Újezd 19,  **Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 31 14 11, info@noirestaurant.cz, www.noirestaurant.cz.** A serene Thai restaurant, and thank goodness for that. Quality Thai food is often hard to find here, but NOI brings authentic Thai chefs to prepare its tom yam koong, khao pad koong and khao pad kai. Lovely staff and a Zen interior complete the experience. ▶ Open 11:00 - 01:00. 150-290Kč.  

SaSaZu K-1, Praha 7, Bubenské nábřeží 306,  **Vi-tavská, tel. 284 09 74 55, info@sasazu.com, www.sasazu.com.** Hip and stylish new Thai/Asian restaurant in the always emerging Holešovice district. The wow factor of the décor hasn't yet transferred to the menu or service; which right now we'll generously put down to growing pains. Current notables include the Thai papaya salad; Ga curry, SaSa crispy roll and the red beef curry. Maybe skip dinner and just hit the other half of the reconstructed warehouse building; which is a dance club. ▶ Open 11:00 - 03:00. 110-295 Kč.  



Yam Yam Thai Food & Cafe Praha 4, Metro station Vyšehrad 1670,  **Vyšehrad, tel. +420 774 84 44 43, info@yamyam.cz, www.yamyam.cz.** Never thought we'd recommend this place; but Thai lovers and others looking for a good inexpensive bit should pop off the metro at Vyšehrad for a tasty Thai meal. Both the menu and the eatery is small, but both offer a big bang. Good choices are their Nu Rad Prig, Kaeng Pet Kai and the spring rolls. Yam Yam = Yum Yum. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00, Sat, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. 50-145 CZK.



Vegetarian

Beas F-2, Praha 1, Týnská 19,  **Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 608 03 57 27, mail@beas-dhaba.cz, www.beas-dhaba.cz.** Original Indian metal trays hold your chosen veggie menu - small or large curry meal, noodles, parantha menu, the massive thali and more. Desserts and lassi are also available and tables have jugs of free water to quench the small fires the somewhat spicy dishes produce. Excellent and deservedly popular. ▶ Open 11:00 - 20:00, Sun 11:00 - 18:00. (70 - 130Kč).  

Clear Head (Lehká hlava) D-4, Praha 1, Boršov 2,  **Národní třída, tel. (+420) 222 22 06 65, info@lehkahlava.cz, www.lehkahlava.cz.** Healthy and delicious, this veggie place doesn't take itself too seriously and despite the name, does serve alcohol. The open kitchen produces ratatouille, pasta, salads, burritos and more, with tofu (try it smoked) and eggplant high on the menu. Fresh juices can be combined to detox while you sit and chill, eat and chat in the cool décor of their three distinct rooms. Tricky to find, down a small alley, but worth it. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:30, Sat, Sun 12:00 - 23:30. (80 - 150Kč). 

Wine bars

Bandol F-2, Praha 1, Týnská 1,  **Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 32 15 21, slon@hotelcernyslon.cz, www.hotelcernyslon.cz.** Located in the quaint brick cellar of a medieval building across the narrow street from Týn Church, Bandol offers a good selection of local and European wines as well as a full menu of international dishes from the restaurant on the ground floor. ▶ Open 18:00 - 01:00. 

Bokovka H-5, Praha 1, Pštrossova 8,  **Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 721 26 25 03, wineclubbokovka@yahoo.com, www.bokovka.com.** Czech and international wines in the heart of Prague opened by film directors Jan Hřebejk (Pupendo, Horem pádem) & David Ondříček (Samotáři). Large wine list and there is no smoking to mess with the taste buds. ▶ Open 16:00 - 01:00. 

Valentine's Day

While the holiday tradition here only dates back post-revolution - the retail industry has strongly embraced the love fest that is February 14. Allow them to guilt you into taking the lovely one in your life out for a romantic night on the town. Here are some amorous choices. Reservations strongly recommended - the day of and weekend before.



La Finestra Platněřská 13, Praha 1, tel. +420 222 32 53 25

If romantic dinner to you means slurping a plate of spaghetti together, La Finestra is one of the nicest Italian restaurants in town. Simple and beautiful, plus fresh seafood. Reservations on info@lafinestra.cz.

Czechose Grill Pobřeží 1 (Inside Hilton Prague Hotel), Praha 8, tel. +420 224 84 11 11

Who says Czech food isn't romantic? If it's prepared by the Czechose Grill's chef you'll certainly sigh lovingly. On February 14, they've prepared a special 5-course dinner beginning at 18:00 followed by a Valentine's Day party in Cloud 9, the ultra cool sky high cocktail bar you should visit anytime. Price 2,950 CZK per couple. For reservations call +420 224 842 700 or email restaurants.prague@hilton.com.

Le Terroir Vejvodova 1, Praha 1, tel. +420 602 88 91 18

Le Terroir's international menu is only surpassed by its excellent wine list. Located in a cozy cellar, the emphasis is not on the décor but the food. Here flavours and quality are of the utmost importance and you'll be all the more happy for it. Check www.laterroir.cz for reservations.

Zlaté Praha Pařížská 30 (Inside the InterContinental Hotel), Praha 1, tel. +420 296 63 09 14

For a meal only rivaled by the views of Old Town, Zlaté Praha as prepared two Valentine's celebrations. On February 12, indulge in their romantic brunch from 12:00-15:00. The unlimited buffet plus a la carte specials is 990 CZK per person. On February 14, choose either a 4-course international or Czech menu. Cost is 2200 CZK per couple and includes a welcome drink. For reservations, +420 296 63 05 22 or email nela.izakova@icprague.com.

Terasa U Zlaté studně U Zlaté studně 4, Praha 1, tel. +420 257 53 33 22

Rated number 1 in the Maurer Guide (the Czech equivalent to Michelin) U Zlaté studně is well-hidden in the winding streets of Malá Strana; but the rooftop restaurant serving perfect international and Czech food will make this a Valentine's Day to remember. Visit www.terasauzlatestudne.cz for reservations.

Zinc V Celnici 7 (Inside the Prague Hilton Old Town), Praha 1, tel. +420 221 82 23 00

Live jazz and a 4-course dinner with wine tasting can be enjoyed in the chic Zinc on February 14, beginning at 19:00. Tickets are 1,290 CZK per person and for reservations call +420 221 822 300 or email zinc@hilton.com.

Prague's bar and club scene is as appropriately raucous as its infamy suggests. Prices and clientele veer widely from the tourist-filled Old Town haunts to the sometimes slightly seedy neighbourhood bars. You will find that beer is drunk morning, noon and night, and that Czech beers are among the best and cheapest in the world. Brands to look out for include Pilsner Urquell, Gambrinus, Staropramen and Budweiser (Budvar). The average wage for bar staff is 50Kč an hour, so please, after having your drinks and your fun, show some appreciation with a decent tip.

Bars

Back Doors Praha 5, Na Bělidle 30/310, [M] Anděl, tel. (+420) 257 31 58 24, info@backdoors.cz, www.backdoors.cz. This space is part restaurant, part bar and part club in the cellar of an old Smíchov house. Massive wooden furniture and forged iron work complement the brick walls and parquet floor of its historical setting. Good for their lunch specials and fabulous for the night time change to music bar with high quality audio system, where you can hear various styles of music from famous Czech DJs. ▶ Open 11:00 - 02:00, Fri 11:00 - 03:00, Sat 18:00 - 03:00. Closed Sun. [C] [F]

Bar and Books F-2, Praha 1, Týnská 19, [M] Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 81 51 22, www.barandbooks.cz. Deep red walls and ceilings, soft leather benches, dark wood finishing, books filling one complete wall and impeccable service typify Bar & Books. Cocktails (140Kč) vie with an astounding array of whiskey, wine and cigars in this classy setting with cool tunes and Bond on TV. Salmon and club sandwiches, caviar and chocolate fondue are on the small but inspired menu. ▶ Open 17:00 - 03:00, Thu, Fri, Sat 17:00 - 04:00. (105 - 295Kč). [C] [C]

Blue Light Bar B-2, Praha 1, Josefská 1, [M] Malostranská, tel. (+420) 224 93 22 49, reservation@bluelightbar.cz, www.bluelightbar.cz. This tiny bar is always busy, and even if you get a table, this doesn't mean you'll keep it to yourself. An older crowd jostles, jokes and jives late into the night in this supposed jazz club. It seldom has live music, but it does play chill tunes, from Barry White to Prince to jazz standards. Strangely, this is a beer drinking country after all, they only serve small beers and at 30Kč, they ain't cheap although well mixed cocktails provide a smooth alternative. It's a cool hot spot with very interesting interior design. ▶ Open 18:00 - 03:00.

Černá ovce Praha 2, Americká 29, [M] Náměstí Míru, tel. (+420) 608 38 17 99, info@barcernaovce.cz, www.barcernaovce.cz. For a possibly rowdy night, or a quiet cocktail, sneak into Černá ovce in Vinohrady. The underground cellar pub has a modern interior, specializes in well-priced cocktails and often has live DJs. It's hit or miss when it comes to the crowd. No cover charge, except when a special DJ is playing. ▶ Open 18:00 - 04:00, Sat 18:00 - 05:00. Closed Sun. Beer: 32-39 CZK, Wine: 44 CZK, Cocktails: 85-135 CZK.

Chapeau Rouge F-3, Praha 1, Jakubská 2, [M] Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 31 63 28, info@chapeaurouge.cz, www.chapeaurouge.cz. A local legend. This large, dark red bar continues to be the place to head for to indulge a multitude of vices. A deeper and darker cellar room kicks in later in the evening as a DJ and dance venue, thus giving dedicated nocturnalists another central venue to frequent. Early on it provides a quiet alternative for a bit of chilling. ▶ Open 12:00 - 04:00, Fri 12:00 - 06:00, Sat 16:00 - 6:00, Sun 16:00 - 3:00. [C] [F]

Cloud 9 J2, Praha 8, Pobežní 1, [M] Florenc, tel. (+420) 224 84 29 99, info@cloud9.cz, www.cloud9.cz. Nine floors up, Prague's first sky bar offers stunning views, a cool interior, smooth sounds and amazing cocktails. A master bartender mixes up old favorites plus a line of signature Cloud 9-only concoctions. A small grazing menu offers an eclectic line-up of tastes and weekend DJs keep the vibe going. Atop the Hilton Hotel. Highly recommended. ▶ Open 18:00 - 02:00. Closed Sun. [C] [C] [F]

NEW

James Dean E-2, Praha 1, V Kolkovně 1, [M] Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 606 97 97 97, info@jamesdean.cz, www.jamesdean.cz. Whether you have a cause or not, you can hit James Dean for an evening of drinks and a dose of Americana. A big cocktail and spirits list, the kitchen is also open till 23:00 serving up burgers, sandwiches, chicken wings and other bar food. ▶ Restaurant: 8:30 - 6:00 (food till 23:00) Bar: 21:00 - 6:00

Kozíčka E-2, Praha 1, Kozi 1, [M] Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 81 83 08, kozicka@kozicka.cz, www.kozicka.cz. Tagged out front by the sculpture of an iron goat, Kozíčka is entered via heavy red curtains, down the stairs and into the labyrinthine set of rooms. Good food adds to the late night party vibe and this is one of the kitchens that'll feed us late into the Prague night - till 01:45 in fact. ▶ Open 12:00 - 04:00, Sat 18:00 - 04:00, Sun 19:00 - 03:00. [C] [C] [C]

Prague Beer Museum I-3, Praha 1, Dlouhá 46, [M] Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 608 02 60 55, se@praguebeermuseum.com, www.praguebeermuseum.com. Drink up! Finally, a pub in Prague where you can try 30 different Czech beers, all on tap. The menu is a history book, with a description page devoted to each beer. They also offer 5 and 10 beer flights if you just can't hold back. Beer cocktails make an appearance along with more typical ones like Mojitos, etc. and wine for you non-beer types. Food is takeaway from a nearby restaurant, and not really recommended. ▶ Open 12:00 - 03:00. 29-69 CZK for .05L beer. [C] [F]

Ron Bar Praha 2, Záhřebská 32, [M] Náměstí Míru, tel. (+420) 604 45 66 66, bar@sbohromozum.cz, www.sbohromozum.cz. A pirate themed interior with a rum list to match; Ron Bar is a laid-back place to spend a relaxed evening drinking cocktails. Light bar snacks are offered, and the tiny place can get smoky but the peaceful vibe and decent cocktails make it a recommended stop. ▶ Open 16:00 - 24:00, Sat 18:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun.

Tretters E-2, Praha 1, V Kolkovně 3, [M] Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 81 11 65, catering@tretters.cz, www.tretters.cz. The bar certainly seems sure of its leading role here, swallowing up so much of the space that it leaves little room for customers. And rightly so. Committed barmen can rattle up some seriously decent cocktails and they serve the best Bloody Marys in town. Wear a suit or the staff will probably sneer at you. ▶ Open 19:00 - 03:00. [C] [C]

Clubs

Abaton Praha 8, Na Košince 8 / Povltavská 2175, [M] Palmovka, tel. (+420) 602 32 44 34, abatonproduction@seznam.cz, www.prostorabaton.cz. Very cool club a tad out of town but with one of the best programs in the city, be it drum n bass DJs or live music to the tune of Chumbawamba, Natacha Atlas, The Dresden Dolls or Free Monday local heroes such as Dirty Airlines. Beer hall downstairs with video feed from the stage upstairs. Open for gigs only and closing time depends on the band/after party. Tram 10, 24, 25 to stanice Stejskalova ▶ Open 19:00 - 03:00. [F]

Akropolis K-4, Praha 3, Kubelíkova 27, [M] Jiřího z Poděbrad, tel. (+420) 296 33 09 13, www.palacakropolis.cz. Akropolis goes a long way to saving the world on those humdrum nights in the winter. A sprawling den of scruffy delights with great and often unusual live music and DJs. There are two bars, an adjoining café, plus the excellent gig space offering some of the most intriguing music in Prague on offer. Gigs have to finish at 22:00 so start times here are punctual. ▶ Open 16:00 - 04:00. Admission 30 - 400Kč. [F] [F] [C]

Cross Club Praha 7, Plynární 23, [M] Nádraží Holešovice, tel. (+420) 736 53 50 53, crossclub@crossclub.cz, www.crossclub.cz. One of Prague's underground legends has emerged into legal luminescence as the cool kid on the block. The labyrinthine den has, despite its slightly out of the way location, become a firm favourite. Jungle, drum 'n base, house and chill out have their own rooms and the music, whether DJ or live, has to compete with some of the funkier, most inventive and ever-changing décor around. ▶ Open 14:00 - 03:00. [C] [F] [F]

Duplex I-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 21, [M] Můstek, tel. (+420) 732 22 11 11, info@duplex.cz, www.duplex.cz. A massive designer space fed by a couple of lifts from street level, this is where Mick Jagger decided to spend his birthday, which has probably made the place even more full of itself. Theme nights range from Dirty Dancing parties on Fridays to local and international DJ's on Saturdays. ▶ Open , Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 22:00 - 05:00. Closed Mon, Tue, Sun. [C] [F] [F]

Karlovy Lázně C-3, Praha 1, Smetanovo nábřeží 198, [M] Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 22 05 02, info@karlovylazne.cz, www.karlovylazne.cz. Set up as Prague's superclub, this place has been rebuilt with panache, e.g. the transparent floor thus enabling you to comfortably look up girls' skirts. Live bands, chillout rooms and free internet access in the basement, standard tunes one floor up, eclectic up one again, and more hard core dance tracks in the loft. ▶ Open 21:00 - 6:00. MCM Internet Café open 10:00 - 05:00. Club open 21:00 - 05:00. Admission 21:00-22:00 50Kč, after 22:00 120Kč.

Klub 007 Strahov Praha 6, Chaloupeckého 7, Koleje ČVUT blok 7, tel. (+420) 776 26 00 71, agent@klub007strahov.cz, www.klub007strahov.cz. Skulking in the basement of a block of student accommodation near Stadion Strahov, this hardcore/punk and hip-hop club has been keeping study results bad for years. ▶ Open 19:30 - 00:00, Fri, Sat 19:30 - 01:00, Sun 19:30 - 0:00. [F]

Klub Phenomen Praha 5, Nádražní 84, [M] Anděl, tel. (+420) 774 36 66 36, info@phenomen.cz, www.phenomen.cz. DJs spin nightly at the new Klub Phenomen, winner of the Best Nightclub in the 2010 Czech Bar Awards. A sprawling basement space, there's a mix of high and low tables and a big dance floor. The bar is brightly lit and you get an overall clean feel. Classy and upscale with a decent, late-night food menu, served until 02:00. ▶ Open , Tue, Wed, Thu 19:00 - 03:00, Fri, Sat 19:00 - 04:00.

La Fabrique E-4, Praha 1, Uhelny trh 2, [M] Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 23 31 37, lafabrique@lafabrique.cz, www.lafabrique.cz. A swish complex of large underground rooms sets the scene for the La Fabrique's definition of a music club. The hordes of uniformed employees are friendly and efficient. Downstairs, the dance floor is packed with a mixture of expats and Czechs doing the meat-market disco stomp to whatever weird mixture the DJ (who couldn't gauge the atmosphere of a morgue) serves up to them. ▶ Open 17:00 - 3:00, Fri, Sat 17:00 - 4:00. Closed Mon, Tue. [C] [C]



Lucerna Music Bar I-4, Praha 1, Vodičkova 36, [M] Můstek, tel. (+420) 224 21 71 08, imb@musicbar.cz, www.lucerna.musicbar.cz. The more popular local bands and the smaller international groups ply their trade here fairly regularly. Every Saturday you can find an un-hip, unpretentious crowd cavorting at their disarmingly popular 1980s night, which has led to the doors being closed because of sheer numbers. ▶ Open 20:00 - 3:00. Admission 50 - 150Kč. [C] [F]

Mecca Praha 7, U Průhonu 3, [M] Nádraží Holešovice, tel. (+420) 602 71 12 25, mecca@mecca.cz, www.mecca.cz. Mecca has taken the proceeds from its status as the recent clubbing star of Prague and done something very odd. It has spent it on making the club even better. Now one can hardly shuffle from one foot to other without falling into the lap of some super-model clubbing lass lying back on one of the huge white sofas. The DJ's they showcase are some of the best town. ▶ Open , Wed, Fri, Sat 22:00 - 06:00. Closed Mon, Tue, Thu, Sun. Admission 150 - 200Kč. [C] [C] [F]

Rock Café D-4, Praha 1, Národní 20, [M] Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 93 39 47, lukas@rockcafe.cz, www.rockcafe.cz. Three bars and a funky, boxy lounge with cool mural graffiti and screen makes Rock Café continuously one of the most suave places in town. ▶ Open 10:00 - 03:00, Sat 17:00 - 03:00, Sun 17:00 - 01:00. Admission 50 - 100Kč. [F] [C]

SaSaZu K-1, Praha 7, Bubenské nábřeží 306, [M] Vltavská, tel. (+420) 284 09 74 55, info@sasazu.com, www.sasazu.com. Pretty cool spot, and definitely the best thing to open here in recent memory. SaSaZu sports a split-level dance floor with enough space for up to 2,000 of your nearest and dearest. Styling décor: flashing lights and lots of events make this a good spot to know and go. Mix of DJs and live acts. Other part of this former warehouse is a Thai restaurant. ▶ Open 11:00 - 03:00.

Casinos

Ambassador Casino E-4, Václavské nám. 5, Mústek, tel. +420 724 747 401, ambassador.manager@vipclub.cz, www.vipclub.cz. Texas Hold'em Poker, roulette, blackjack, pontoon and slots attract a sophisticated crowd with the casino's excellent, knowledgeable staff, and appropriate atmosphere. ▶ Open 24hrs. [C] [P]

Casino Panorama Praha 4, Milevská 7, M Pankrác, tel. +420 724 747 403, panorama.manager@vipclub.cz, www.vipclub.cz. The Corinthia Panorama Hotel hosts another winning casino from the VIP group. The usual games (American Roulette, Black Jack, Poker) and slot machines are on offer, with drinks and refreshments. ▶ Open 20:00 - 04:00. [C] [P]

Banco Casino F-3, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 27, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 96 73 80, bancotexasholdem@seznam.cz, www.bancotexasholdem.cz. One of Prague's favourite casinos, set in a central location difficult to beat. All your favourite games are available, there are state of the art slot machines, a private salon and a general atmosphere of unadulterated luxury that entices even James Bond: it was used in Casino Royale... ▶ Open 24 hours. [C]

Bohemia Praha 4, 5. května 65 (Congress Centre), M Vyšehrad, tel. (+420) 241 40 65 57, info@casinobohemia.cz, www.casinobohemia.cz. Prague's first casino. With slot machines, poker, Blackjack and the usual suspects both on and off the tables, Bohemia is as good a place as ever to gamble your crowns away. Smart dress and ID required. ▶ Open 17:00 - 05:00. [C] [P] [T]

Casino de Prague Le Hilton J-2, Praha 8, Pobřežní 1 (Hotel Hilton), M Florenc, tel. (+420) 224 81 09 88. One of the favoured casinos for Prague expats, the Hilton provides roulette, poker, blackjack, pontoon, Punto Banco, and slots with the worldwide standards of the Hilton chain. ▶ Open 14:00 - 06:00. [C]

Casino President E-1, Praha 1, Nám. Curieových 100 (President Hotel), M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 234 61 41 13, www.casinopresident.cz. Roulette, black jack, poker, pontoon and slots available at this luxurious new casino. Minimum bets are 100Kč for blackjack, et al. and 25Kč on roulette. Free soft drinks while you gamble. ▶ Open 18:00 - 04:00, Fri, Sat 18:00 - 05:00. [C]

Century Casino Millennium I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 10, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 03 34 01, www.cnty.com. Catering to the likes of the Marriott Hotel, the Century Casino in the Millennium Plaza boasts excellent croupiers who will help out beginners and take anyone's money. The usual roulette, poker and blackjack are available. ▶ Open 15:00 - 04:00, Fri, Sat 15:00 - 05:00. [C] [P]

www.inyourpocket.com

Top Secret Club E-2, Praha 1, Masná 9, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 31 69 03, info@wigggo.cz, www.topsecretclub.cz. The secret's out - Top Secret is one cool joint. The club is happening; and the cafe is open long hours. Brunch is offered on the weekends. ▶ Open 21:00 - 03:00, Fri, Sat 21:00 - 05:00. Cafe is open everyday (8:00-18:00);

U Bukanýra F-1, Praha 1, Nábřeží L. Svobody, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 608 97 35 82, jindra@bukanyr.cz, www.bukanyr.cz. Find Bukanýra, a houseboat-looking floating bar and club at another new address under Štefánikova most. It's small but friendly and always busy with chilled groups lounging in the comfortable seating. Various DJs spin discs while boozers smooze and movers groove. ▶ Open, Thu 19:00 - 03:00, Fri, Sat 21:00 - 06:00. Closed Mon, Tue, Wed, Sun. The summer terrace bar is open 16:00 - 24:00, closed Sun & Mon. [C]

Újezd A-4, Praha 1, Újezd 18, M Národní třída, tel. (+420) 251 51 08 73, pro@klubujezd.cz, www.klubujezd.cz. Yes, the ambience is young, shabby and hedonistic, but Újezd's three floors and especially the bizarre wrought iron sculptures are a tonic to eyes and ears. Friendly staff and hot (most of them smoking) people throng here any night for live music and/or DJs. The cellar is punk, and upstairs is a more eclectic chill zone. Don't bring your posh frock, do bring some energy. ▶ Open 11:00 - 04:00. [C]

Jazz

Bílý koníček Praha 1, Staroměstské náměstí 20, M Staroměstské, tel. +420 221 42 11 60, reservation@bilykonicek.cz, www.bilykonicek.com. Billing itself as the oldest jazz and blues club in the world, Bílý koníček is definitely one of the hottest lounges in the city. The cellar atmosphere located on Old Town Square and superb music on stage make it an ever popular joint. ▶ Open 20:00 - 02:00.

Jazz Dock Praha 5, Janáčkovo nábřeží 2, tel. (+420) 774 05 88 38, info@jazzdock.cz, www.jazzdock.cz. Soul, funk, blues...if it jams it's at Jazz Dock. This newly opened riverside club offers a diverse selection of blues & jazz genres, with a variety of bands taking the stage every night. Open till the wee hours, but stop by during the day for a light snack at their rooftop café. ▶ Open 13:00 - 04:00, Sun 13:00 - 02:00. 150 Kč standard admission.

JazzTime restaurant and club Krakovská 19, Praha 1, M Muzeum, tel. +420 222 21 29 94, info@jazztime.cz, www.jazztime.cz. The largest jazz club in Prague with two floors of great music - upstairs level is free.

Reduta D-4, Praha 1, Národní 20, M Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 93 34 87, reduta.jazz@volny.cz, www.redutajazzclub.cz. Founded in 1958, Reduta was the first real venue for Czech rock and roll, playing smuggled Elvis records. Reduta has not changed much since then; don't come for the brown 1980s interior or the uncomfortable bench seating; Reduta still brings in quality performers and even attracts a president or two. Václav Havel has brought Bill Clinton here twice now, and yes, he did play his sax. ▶ Open 21:00 - 24:00. [C] [P]

Pubs

Dubliner Irish Bar F-2, Praha 1, Týn 1, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 89 54 04, info@aulddubliner.cz, www.aulddubliner.cz. Formerly Legends sports bar, the Dubliner bills itself as an Irish sports pub. Whatever, you've still got 12 TV's + 2 large screens now nestled in a homely Irish pub atmosphere. If there's an international sport match you gotta watch it's highly likely you'll see it here. Weekends visiting DJ's rule the roost. ▶ Open, Mon, Tue, Wed, Sun 11:00 - 01:00, Thu, Fri, Sat 11:00 - 03:00. (100 - 400Kč). [C] [P] [T]

George & Dragon E-2, Praha 1, Staroměstské nám. 11, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 32 61 37, info@georgeanddragonprague.com, www.georgeanddragonprague.com. A British pub landed slap bang in the middle of Old Town Square. TV screens, a big screen and footy shirts line the walls so it won't remind you of the country outside. Good food, including an all day breakfast with the atmosphere you want to see your team play and win, with any luck. ▶ Open 09:00 - 02:00. [C] [P] [T]

Jihoměstský pivovar Praha 4, Podjavorinske 1602, M Háje, tel. +420 222 35 22 42, info@jihomestskypivovar.cz, www.jihomestskypivovar.cz. If you are looking to experience some good beer, in a completely different part of town, jump on the metro all the way to Háje and discover the South City Brewery. Three beers are brewed in-house and served on tap, all unpasteurized and unfiltered. The dearth of decent pubs and restaurants in the area means the place is usually packed. Even though it bills itself as a microbrewery/restaurant fusion, head out for the beer and the atmosphere, not the food. ▶ Open, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 11:00 - 23:00, Fri 11:00 - 24:00, Sat 12:00 - 24:00, Sun 12:00 - 23:00. Large beers: 29-35 CZK, main meal, 125-269 CZK.

J.J.Murphy's A-2, Praha 1, Tržiště 4, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 53 55 75, info@jjmurphys.cz, www.jjmurphys.cz. Don't worry, they also have Guinness. If you pine for the days when you could enjoy a pint, a good meal and your favourite sporting event without screaming Englishmen in dresses working on their 20th beer, then belly up to this Irish bar. Watch live sport from one of the sofas in the attic lounge or have a proper breakfast with pudding or a real American burger on the ground floor. ▶ Open 10:00 - 01:00. [C] [T]

Rocky O'Reilly's I-5, Praha 1, Štěpánská 32, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 222 23 10 60, info@rockyoreillys.cz, www.rockyoreillys.cz. Photos of prestigious poets and pubs, Guinness on draught and an 'O' in its name all meet the criteria for a classic Irish watering hole. Other perks include hearty portions of international food including a huge Irish breakfast served anytime, Sky Sports broadcast on several TVs and wait staff that can easily draw your attention away from the football. ▶ Open 10:00 - 02:00. [C] [P] [T]

Tlustá koala F-3, Praha 1, Senovážná 1394/8, M Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 24 54 01, tlustakoala@seznam.cz, www.tlustakoala.cz. The Fat Koala boasts (if that's the word) Foster's lager, but everything else is more international than Aussie. With 11 beers on tap and more in bottles, this place is a dream and prices (Staropramen 31Kč) are not that high considering its location. Two floors of pub ambience and private rooms keep people lingering long after the hearty meals have been sufficiently washed down. ▶ Open 12:00 - 2:00, Sun 15:00 - 2:00. (100 - 800Kč). [C] [P] [T]

CASINO AMBASSADOR

Hotel Ambassador
Václavské nám. 5, Praha 1

OPEN NONSTOP

- AMERICAN ROULETTE •
- BLACK JACK •
- PONTOON •
- OASIS POKER •
- TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER •
- SLOTMACHINES WITH JACKPOT •



CASINO PANORAMA

Hotel Corinthia Panorama
Milevská 7, Praha 4

OPEN 20.00 - 04.00

- AMERICAN ROULETTE •
- BLACK JACK •
- OASIS POKER •
- SLOTMACHINES •

www.vipclub.cz
www.ghotels.cz

The essentials of Prague - if you see nothing else, do not miss these sights. Obviously in this city that has been a destination for hundreds of years, there is much to see and do, and one of the most enjoyable aspects is just wandering around. Don't forget to look up as the gilded spires are rightfully what Prague is renowned for. But keep an eye of the ground too - dog owners are not renowned for their cleaning-up ability.



Charles Bridge (Karlův most) C-3, Praha 1, Staroměstská. Karlův most joins Staré Město (Old Town) and the Malá Strana (Little Quarter) and is one of the world's most beautiful bridges. The bridge was built in 1357, but the figures of saints were added during the 17th century. They symbolise the confidence of the Catholic Austrian's triumph over the Protestant Hussites. The bridge is thronged all day with tourists, while at night it offers wonderful views of the illuminated castle and Old Town. Go at dawn to be alone and witness the saints emerging from the mist.



Municipal House (Obecní dům) F-3, Praha 1, nám. Republiky 5, Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 00 21 01, www.obecnidum.cz. The magnificent Obecní dům building holds two restaurants, a super café, an American bar, a gallery, shop and classical music venue. Built between 1905 and 1910 in the architecturally stunning Art Nouveau style, the Municipal House has been painstakingly restored to its former glory. It was here that the Czechoslovakian state was signed into being on October 28, 1918. It was also here in 1989 that communist bureaucrats and revolution leaders of the Civic Forum discussed the velvet transfer of power and the state's transformation to democracy.



National Theatre (Národní divadlo) C-4, Národní 2, Národní třída, tel. (+420) 224 90 14 48. This lavish neo-Renaissance building on the bank of the Vltava, with its golden crown of chariot-driving women, is Prague's National Theatre. The building was completed in 1881 and was almost immediately destroyed by fire. It reopened in 1883. See *Events* for the current programme.

Old Town Square (Staroměstské náměstí) E-3, Praha 1, Staroměstská. The indisputable heart of Prague. This vast open space is flanked by a pleasing blend of carefully restored architectural styles: Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and neo-styles. The square is notable for its constant hum of activity, day and night, and a long history as centre stage for so many of the city's defining moments, from the execution of preacher J.



Želivský in 1422, to the attacks on Soviet tanks with Molotov cocktails in 1968. Towering above the square, half-hidden behind a row of houses, is the fairy-turreted Týn Church. The centrepiece of the square is a memorial to Jan Hus. It was draped in swastikas by the Nazis and in black cloth to mourn the passing of the Prague Spring.



Town Hall & Astronomical clock (Staroměstská radnice) E-3, Praha 1, Staroměstské nám., Staroměstská. The 14th century Town Hall complex features a tower with an astronomical clock, added in the 15th century. Every hour on the hour Jesus and his disciples lead a pageant that includes the allegorical figures of Death, the Turk, the Miser, the Fool and the Rooster. It sounds more impressive than it actually is, but it's still worth a look. The climb or lift up the

tower is rewarded by the stunning views. Open 09:00 - 18:00, Mon 11:00 - 18:00. Admission 60/40Kč.



Vyšehrad H-7, Praha 2, Soběslavova 1, Vyšehrad. The rocky cliff-top boasts Prague's second castle. In the hearts and minds of many Czechs, Vyšehrad symbolises the birth of the Czech nation and is shrouded in legend and myth. This is apparently the spot where Princess Libuše stood and predicted the rise of a great city. Literally translated as

'high castle', it was probably founded in the middle of the 10th century. In 972 Prince Boleslav II built the royal mint here, and in 1085 Vratislav II selected it as his residence. Over the following centuries successive kings remodelled the palace and fortress, but moved their permanent home across the river. Within the fortress confines is the national cemetery (Vyšehradský hřbitov), which from the 1870s became the final resting place of many of the most famous Czech writers and composers, including Jan Neruda, Bedřich Smetana and Antonín Dvořák. Open 09:30 - 17:30.

Wenceslas Square (Václavské náměstí) F-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám., Můstek. Václavské náměstí is actually a boulevard running down from the National Museum and the equestrian statue of Saint Wenceslas to Můstek, formerly the site of a city gate and drawbridge. This is where crowds traditionally come to demonstrate against their incompetent rulers, and this was where, in 1989, thousands gathered to shake their keys in celebration of the death of the Communist Party. Rows of shops, hotels (note the Art Nouveau glory of Hotel Europa) and nightclubs flank the pavements, and by night it can get a bit sleazy. Thankfully, there are plans to rid the square of cars, bury the highway in front of the museum in a tunnel and have tram N°11 make a come-back.



The largest collection of wonders in the city, Prague castle is an amalgamation of architecture from different periods. From the almost pastoral serenity of St. George's Basilica, to the awe-inspiring Gothic power of St. Vitus Cathedral, the castle has attractions for all - history and architecture plus marching soldiers and entertainment.

Approach & Entry A-1, Praha 1, Hradčany, tel. (+420) 224 37 24 23, www.hrad.cz. There are two information centres, one in the second courtyard and one in the third. Here you can find out what time the changing of the guard takes place, buy tickets and get audio guides.

There are **four ways to approach the castle**. By far the best way is to take tram N°22 to the Pohořelec stop, where you start with breathtaking views of Prague from Strahov Monastery; then walk down through beautiful Hradčanská district along Loretánská towards the main castle entrance on Hradčanské náměstí. You can skip the Hradčanská walk by getting off the tram earlier, at the Pražský hrad stop, from where you enter the second courtyard. Alternatively, walk up Nerudova and the steep hill from Malostranské náměstí. The worst approach is up the Staré zámecké schody steps near Malostranská metro station; these are best kept for the way down. Buildings & Info: From 1 November - 31 March: open 09:00 - 16:00. Courtyards (admission free) open 06:00 - 23:00. Castle gardens and Jelení příkop are closed. From 1 April - 31 October: open 09:00 - 18:00. Courtyards (admission free) open 05:00 - 24:00. Castles gardens and Jelení příkop 10:00 - 18:00. **Note:** Golden Lane will be closed for renovations beginning May 1, 2010. Repairs are expected to take one year. Admission to the Old Royal Palace, St. George's Basilica, Powder Tower, Picture Gallery and Golden Lane: 350Kč (long tour.) Cathedral, Old Royal Palace, St. George's Basilica and Golden Lane: 250Kč (short tour.) Reductions for families.

Stemberg Palace (Štemberský palác) Hradčanské nám. 15. Sharing an entrance with the Archbishop's Palace is the Štemberský palác from 1698. It's part of the National Gallery and home to a collection of European art, including Rubens and Rembrandt. In 1991 thieves stole US\$2.6 million worth of Picassos. Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon.

First courtyard Pause at the castle gates to admire the soldiers' uniforms (designed by the wardrobe designer of the film *Amadeus*), and hopefully see the changing of the guard. Then move into the courtyard flanking the presidential rooms, which are not open to the public. These are numerous and include the Spanish Hall, once the venue for meetings of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. As you walk through the archway, the steps on your right are where many of the official greetings are made to visiting heads of state.

Second courtyard Reconstructed by Empress Maria Theresa, this courtyard acts as an intersection point for two of the entrances into the castle. You can exit under the archway to reach the Stag Moat, Royal Gardens and trams N°22 and 23.

St. Vitus Cathedral (Katedrála svatého Víta)

Moving into the third courtyard of the castle you'll face one of Europe's great Gothic cathedrals. St. Vitus is the spiritual heart of the nation as the mausoleum of Bohemian kings and the city's greatest landmark. Work on the present cathedral was started in 1344 but it wasn't consecrated until 1929. Check out Mucha's stained glass window and the door with seven locks leading to the crown jewels. Don't miss the beautiful mosaic depicting the Last Judgment of Christ on the exterior of the cathedral. The mosaic is 84 square metres and was created in 1371. Open 09:00 - 16:00.



Old Royal Palace (Starý královský palác) One of the oldest and most impressive parts of the castle, the Old Royal Palace dates from 1135 and was the seat of Bohemian princes. From the 13th to the 16th century it was the king's palace. The magnificent **Vladislav Hall** was used for banquets, councils, coronations and even jousting. All presidents have been sworn in here, and this building was where the 1618 defenestration took place. The palace contains *The Story of Prague Castle* exhibition. Don't forget to have a look at the Rampart Gardens below. Open 09:00 - 16:00. Admission 120/60Kč.

Golden Lane (Zlatá ulička)

The phrase 'picturesque street' might have been invented to describe this tiny cobbled lane with its miniature workers' cottages. After a lengthy reconstruction, the Lane has reopened and now features displays on how past residents of the street used to live. A few of the souvenir shops do remain. It was on this street, or so legend has it, that 16th-century alchemists laboured to discover the Philosopher's Stone to make gold from lead. Franz Kafka spent evenings at his sister's house, N°22. Open 09:00 - 16:00.



Daliborka Tower Built in 1496 and used as a prison till the end of 18th century, the tower stands on your left as you exit the Golden Lane. It is so named for its first prisoner, Dalibor of Kozojedy, whose story was told by Smetana in his 1868 opera *Dalibor*. The underground cell is truly terrifying. Open 09:00 - 16:00.

Palace Gardens B-1, Valdštejnská 12. A large set of steeply terraced gardens leading up to the castle. The steep climb up to the castle is rewarded by fitness, some beautiful landscaping and stunning views of the city. Open 10:00 - 18:00. Admission 80/40Kč, families 180Kč.

St. George's Basilica (Bazilika svatého Jiří) The basilica is the Romanesque church lurking behind a Baroque facade in the courtyard behind St. Vitus. Now deconsecrated, it serves as a concert hall. In the chapel on the right of the presbytery is the tomb of St. Ludmila, the first Czech saint. Open 09:00 - 16:00

Churches


Bethlehem Chapel (Betlémská Kaple)

D-3, Praha 1, Betlémské náměstí, M Staroměstská. From 1402 to 1412, Jan Hus preached at the Bethlehem Chapel, hence it's significance for non-Catholics, but in 1622, the Jesuits took control of the chapel and Catholic mass became the service of the day. Then in 1786 it was levelled, only to be rebuilt (somewhat strangely) by the communists, who had preserved its architectural plans in 1950. Apparently, they were keen to exploit the chapel's symbolism as an historic emblem of Czech national pride. ▶ Open 10:00 - 17:30. Closed Mon.


Břevnov Monastery (Benedictine Archabbey)

Praha 6, Markétská 1. Established in 992-993 by the Bishop of Prague, Vojtěch, and the Bohemian Prince, Boleslav II, Břevnov Monastery is the oldest Benedictine monastery in the Czech Republic. The former wooden monastery underwent Roman then Gothic renovation and became an important religious, cultural and economic institution for the Czech kingdom. During the Hussite wars it was burned down, but 200 years later, it was crafted into its present Baroque form. The large monastery complex contains the Basilica of St. Marketa, the terrace garden, the Vojtěška spring and St. Joseph's Chapel. Tram N°8, 22 to Břevnovský klášter.


Church of Our Lady Victorious

B-3, Praha 1, Karmelitáská 9, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 257 53 36 46, www.pragjesu.info. This house of worship was built by German Lutherans between 1611-1615. To the right of the entrance is a commemorative site to the 16th century Spanish nun, St. Therese of Avila, who along with friar John

of the Cross, reformed the Carmelite order into what is known as the Discalced Carmelites. Further inside is

Tourist Information

Prague Info E-3, Praha 1, Staroměstské nám. 1, (Old Town Hall), M Staroměstské, tourinfo@ps.cz, www.prague-info.cz. This excellent official tourist information centre provides vocal and written information in various languages from helpful and knowledgeable staff, plus tickets, excursions, and accommodation. For general information in English, Czech or German call tel. 124 44. ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:30. Also at I-3, Praha hlavní nádraží & B-2, Praha 1, Malá Strana Tower, open 10:00 - 18:00.

the church's claim to fame, a 45cm high wax statuette of Jesus known as the *Infant Jesus of Prague*, which is a pilgrimage site of sorts - for its historical and religious importance, and a couple of unnamed miracles that have been attached to it. ▶ Open 08:30 - 19:00, Sun 08:30 - 20:00.



Loreta A-1, Praha 1, Lorentánské nám. 7. One of the country's most famous places of pilgrimage, this chapel is just a quick walk from the main entrance to the castle. Built between 1626-1720, this Baroque building contains, among other icons and objects, a painting of a bearded lady, ornate friezes, bejewelled icons and a high

quota of chubby-cheeked cherubs. The small museum also houses a collection of diamond ostensories. Within the main chapel there is the brickwork supposedly from the original Loreto in Italy which was flown over from Italy by some well-meaning angels. Blasphemers take note - the split in the wall was supposedly caused by a thunderbolt fired off at one of your kind. ▶ Open 09:00 - 12:15, 13:00 - 16:30. Admission 110/90Kč.


Our Lady of Snow (U Panny Marie Sněžné)

E-4, Praha 1, Jungmannovo nám, M Můstek. The towering Gothic torso hidden near Václavské náměstí was started off in 1347 by Charles

IV as a Carmelite order monastery. Construction was stopped by the Hussites in 1419, and only the 34m-high choir of the planned 110m-long church was finished. The Franciscans renovated the ruins of the church in 1604, adding the magnificent Renaissance altar. The peaceful adjacent monastery gardens (Františkánská zahrada) are an excellent place to soak up the sun.

St. Ignatius Church (Kostel Sv. Ignáce) H-5, Praha 2, Ječná 2, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 224 92 12 54. The construction of what was intended to be a basilica began in 1665 on these very grounds. In 1671 the church alongside Karlovo Square was finally completed and the large statue of Saint Ignatius, the founder of the Jesuit order, was placed on top. The church is still active and run by Jesuit monks.


St. Nicholas Church

B-2, Praha 1, Malostranské nám. 38, M Malostranská, tel. (+420) 224 19 09 91. Construction of this Baroque pile began in 1673, but it would be nearly another 80 years until the Jesuits completed it. Peer closely at the copper statue of St. Nicholas above the gold coated altar; the two statues below him are of St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Francis Xavier. The ceiling fresco

depicts the apotheosis of St. Nicholas. Also of interest is the organ, which has 2500 pipes and 44 registers, and it was these very ivories that Mozart tinkled on his visit to Prague. ▶ Open 10:00 - 17:00. Admission 70/50Kč.


Strahov Monastery Praha 1, Strahovské nádvoří 1, tel. (+420) 233 10 77 18, www.strahovskyclaust.cz.

The Strahov Monastery has stood on the approach to the castle since 1140. Today, this Romanesque monastery houses various museums for religious arts and is home to the quite stunning central chapel. **The Museum of Czech**

Literature (open 09:00 - 12:00; 13:00 - 17:00, admission 50Kč), is housed in the monastic libraries. The **Theological and Philosophical Halls** are superb but can only be viewed from the doorways. Items available for closer inspection are manuscripts from the 14th century, a stuffed doddo, and a large collection of crabs, fish, shells and insects. **The Strahov Gallery** in the central courtyard (open 09:00 - 17:00, admission 35Kč) has one of the finest collections of monastic art in Central Europe. Trams N°22,23 to Pohóřelec. ▶ Open 09:00 - 17:00. Admission 60/40Kč.


Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church H-5, Praha 1, Resslova 9, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 224 92 06 86, www.pravoslavnacirkev.cz.

This Orthodox church was built in honour of Sts. Cyril and

Methodius, the men responsible for the Slavonic alphabet. However, most people know about this church because of what happened here at 04:10 on the morning of June 18, 1942 when the Nazis had discovered that the seven Czech parachutists involved in the assassination of Reichsprotektor Heydrich were hiding in the crypt. The west side of Karlovo náměstí was cordoned off by 800 troops from the SS and the Gestapo. Three of the soldiers died as the SS stormed the church. The remaining four fought on. After hours of shooting and a long stand-off which led to the Germans deciding to literally flush them out, they used their last bullets on each other. The bullet-scarred exterior wall holds a plaque in honour of their bravery.

A new permanent exhibition to the memory of those who participated in the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich in 1942 has here. The small, but very in depth display maps the Czechoslovak resistance movement against the Nazis and includes photographs and memorabilia from the time. There are also films showing on TV screens and backgrounds into the seven paratroopers who participated in the mission. ▶ Open daily: 09:00-17:00. Closed Mon. (From Nov.-Feb. closed Sundays & Mondays) 75 Kč

Museums & Galleries


City Museum (Muzeum hlavního města Prahy) B-3, Praha 1, Na Poříčí 52, tel. (+420) 224 81 67 72, www.muzeumprahy.cz.

This homage to the city of a hundred spires includes a paper model of the city that

took 11 years to create and a gigantic model of the entire city at the beginning of the 19th century. This wood and paper model was made from 1829-1837 by Antonin Langweil and is a highlight to the museum. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 110/40Kč.

Pocket Watch

A topical crawl of sorts around Prague. This month: Sweet Cafes



February and March can be a bit dreary in Prague. Occasional spots of sunshine get us excited, and then the hazy grey skies commandeer again. When the weather has got you feeling a bit low, pop into one of these delightfully charming cafes for a nice hot drink, and most importantly something sweet to brighten the day.

Bakeshop Praha Praha 1, Old Town Kozi 1

+420 222 316 823 www.bakeshop.cz PIYP map: H3

A Prague institution, this bakeshop was one of the city's first to introduce "western-style" cakes and pies. Which is more legendary, the carrot cake or their chocolate brownie? Try both and let us know. Superb cookies too.

Cukrárna Saint Tropez

Praha 1, Nové Město Vodičkova 30, inside the passageway +420 603 333 338 www.cafe-st-tropez.eu PIYP map: I4

Just about every cake, chocolate, croissant and other delicacy at St. Tropez will make you swoon with delight. Go for something covered in chocolate, or layered with fruit, or whatever they've just brought out of the oven.

Myšák

Praha 1, Nové Město Vodičkova 31 +420 221 778 502 www.cukrarnamysak.cz PIYP map: I4

This café institution was revitalized in 2009 with a swanky new interior and a bit heftier prices. The atmosphere is as much a reason to go as the cakes; the most famous are the mascarpone cake and the caramel cake. Known for their sundaes too, if you can handle a frozen treat.

Cubism Museum F-3, Praha 1, Ovocný trh 19, M Národní Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 21 17 46, www.ngprague.cz.

The angular grace of 1920s cubism is apparent in the minimalist and abstract lines of the sculptures, paintings, furniture, ceramics and architecture on show at this small but delightful museum. Cubism in the Czech Republic permeated all aspects of design, applied arts and graphics, which is beautifully illustrated by the variety of exhibits. The *House at the Black Madonna*, which houses the museum, was built in 1911 as a department store and is itself a monument to Cubism. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 100/50Kč.

Jewish Prague

Prague's Jewish community was one of the oldest in Europe, and rich in history, legend and tragedy. Here, the story goes, Rabbi Loew created the Golem nearly half a millennium ago.

The community was confined to a ghetto until 1781 when Josef II issued the Edict of Tolerance, which permitted the free exercise of religion and the secularisation of education, science and art. The Jewish town is called **Josefov** to this day in his honour.

From the 1880s, in the name of slum-clearing, most of Josefov was razed to the ground and only a few synagogues, the cemetery and the Josefov town hall remained. Wide new streets with grand Art Nouveau buildings emerged in place of the decrepit old tenement buildings.

Later still, the Nazis all but annihilated Prague's Jewish legacy, saving the monuments as their planned epitaph to a vanished culture. The post-war communists did little to alleviate the persecution - many of the remaining Jewish inhabitants chose to emigrate.

Jewish Museum (Židovské muzeum) E-2, Praha 1, U Staré školy 1, tel. (+420) 222 317 191, www.jewishmuseum.cz. The starting point for an exploration of Prague's Jewish past and present. Unfortunately, the idea for a museum encompassing the Jewish Quarter is not new. The reason that the main buildings and cemetery in the Jewish Quarter are still intact, is that Hitler intended to transform the quarter into an epitaph to a vanished culture. The Jewish Museum supervises the Old Jewish Cemetery, the Old Ceremonial Hall, and the Pinkas, Klausen, Maisel and Spanish Synagogues, but not the Old New Synagogue, although you can buy a combined ticket for entry to all. The high admission price causes many budget-conscious visitors turn away at the gates, but despite this, you'll need to go early to avoid the crowds. ▶ Open 09:00 - 16:30. Closed Sat. Admission 300/200Kč for all sights.

Klausen Synagogue (Klausenová synagoga) D-2, Praha 1, U Starého hřbitova 3A. A Judaic Baroque building which houses a permanent exhibition showing Jewish customs and traditions - and the occasional art exhibition. Next door is the Ceremonial Hall.

Maisel Synagogue (Maiselova synagoga) E-2, Praha 1, Maiselova 10. Maisel Synagogue is home to a large collection of silverware, previously confiscated from Jewish families by the Nazis. Their permanent exhibition, *The History of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia*, is definitely worth a visit.

Pinkas Synagogue (Pinkasova synagoga) D-2, Praha 1, Široká 3. The walls inside Pinkas Synagogue are chillingly covered with the names of 77,297 Jewish Holocaust victims from Bohemia and Moravia. There is also a permanent exhibition of children's drawings from Terezin concentration camp, drawn between 1942 and 1944.

Old Jewish Cemetery (Starý židovský hřbitov) D-2, Praha 1, Široká 2, (entrance from Pinkas Synagogue). From the 14th century until 1747, this was the final resting place for Prague's Jewish community; some 12,000 graves are said to be piled one on top of the other. Oldest and most famous is that of Rabbi Loew, which is the grave with the most pebbles piled on top of it - a Jewish tradition. To visit the cemetery, men will have to cover their heads; *kippas* are provided at the entrance.

Spanish Synagogue (Španělská synagoga) E-2, Praha 1, Dušní 12. This neo-Moorish structure was built in 1868 to replace the previously demolished Old Synagogue. It is a beautiful building outside and in, with a domed ceiling, Islamic motifs and stained glass. Restored in 1998, the synagogue houses an exhibition on the history of Czech Jews.

Old New Synagogue (Staronová synagoga) E-2, Praha 1, Červená 2. Of all the synagogues in Prague, this is perhaps the most important. It has stood here since the 13th century, and despite fires, floods and the Nazi occupation, remains today the functional, spiritual centre of the Jewish community. ▶ Open 09:00 - 16:30, Fri 09:00 - 14:00. Closed Sat. Admission 200Kč.

High Synagogue (Vysoká synagoga) E-2, Praha 1, Červená 4. The High Synagogue is no longer open to the public. It is next to the Old New Synagogue - note the clock on the façade of the pink building next door; it has Hebrew numbers and turns counter-clockwise.

New Jewish Cemetery (Židovské hřbitovy) Praha 3, Vínohradská, Želivského, tel. (+420) 272 74 18 93. Much larger and much less visited than the Old Town Cemetery. Founded in 1890, it has some impressive graves from the early 1900s. Franz Kafka is buried at grave N°137.

Žižkov Jewish Cemetery Prague 3, Fibichova. Only a peaceful small corner remains of this Jewish cemetery at the foot of the TV tower. Originally a plague cemetery established well away from the city limits in 1680, 40,000 people were buried here until 1890. Baroque, Empire and Romantic style tombstones survived the ages. ▶ Open Tue & Thu 09:00 - 13:00. Admission 20Kč.



Jubilee Synagogue (Jubilejní synagoga) I-4, Praha 1, Jeruzalémská 1310/7, tel. (+420) 222 31 90 02. The newest, biggest, and arguably most spectacular of Prague's synagogues, the Jubilee Synagogue is so called because it was decided upon on the 50th anniversary of the accession of Franz Joseph I. Built in pseudo-Moorish style and dedicated on 16 Sept 1906 during the festival of Simhat Torah, the synagogue has a service on Sat at 09:00 and is open to visitors from 23 Apr - 31 Oct from 13:00 - 17:00 (except Saturdays).

Prague's Schindler

Three trainloads of Jewish children were able to escape from German-occupied Prague in the spring and summer of 1939, before war broke out, thanks to the efforts of the man dubbed (post-Spielberg, of course) the *Schindler of Prague*. Bill Barazetti, together with a British stockbroker, arranged papers and transport for three trainloads of children - the *Kindertransporte* - to leave the city and travel via the Netherlands to safety in London. A fourth train left Prague on the eve of the war but it never reached the Netherlands and was not heard of again. In August 1939 Barazetti fled to Britain, but it was 50 years before his story became known.

Czech Museum of Fine Arts (České muzeum výtvarných umění v Praze) D-3, Praha 1, Husova 19-21, tel. (+420) 222 22 02 18, www.cmvu.cz. Large collection of fine arts including classics and more modern works. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 50Kč.

Decorative Arts Museum (UpM) D-2, Praha 1, 17. listopadu 2, tel. (+420) 251 093 111, www.upm.cz. Basically, this is a museum of stuff. Its permanent exhibit showcases what normal articles (clocks, ceramics, glass, clothing, photographs, furniture) from the 19th-20th century. You won't bump into philosopher Emmanuel Kant here; he believed that an aesthetic object is only art if it has no use (he's also long dead). Built in 1899 in commemoration of Franz Josef becoming emperor, the building itself is impressive, too. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 80/40Kč. ☞



DOX Centre for Contemporary Art Praha 7, Poupětova 1, tel. (+420) 774 145 434, info@dox-prague.org, www.dox-prague.org. Opened in October 2008; DOX is sure to make a splash on Prague's still burgeoning contemporary art scene. The building itself is amazing - a mix of old metal factory and new build right in the heart of industrial Holešovice. Organizers plan to showcase present contemporary art from around the world; as well as offer exposure to Czech contemporary artists. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Tue. Adults: 120Kč, Children: 80Kč.



Dvořák Museum I-6, Praha 2, Ke Karlovu 20, tel. (+420) 224 92 33 63, www.nm.cz. The Dvořák Museum is housed in the so-called Villa America, a Baroque summer palace designed by Kilian Ignaz Dientzenhofer, who was also responsible for the beautiful St. Nicholas Church in Malá Strana. This museum houses a good collection of memorabilia from the life and work of Dvořák, the Czech composer famous for the *New World Symphony*, among others. ▶ Open 10:00 - 17:00. Closed Mon. Admission 40Kč.

Dvorak Sec Contemporary E-2, Praha 1, Dlouhá 5, ☞ Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 604 20 46 53, info@dvoraksec.com, www.dvoraksec.com. In addition to displaying their own collections, the new gallery space in Old Town offers young and emerging artists as well as more established international artists. Their newly reconstructed building is an amazing space in itself. ▶ Open 9:00 - 18:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Futura Praha 5, Holečková 49, ☞ Anděl, tel. (+420) 251 51 18 04, www.futuraproject.com. This non-profit gallery was opened in June 2003 to provide an accessible space for contemporary art. Three floors of a renovated factory. Tram 4, 7, 9, 10 to Bertramka. ▶ Open Wed - Sun 11:00 - 18:00.

Galerie MIRO Praha 1, Strahovské nádvoří 1, tel. (+420) 233 35 40 66, www.galeriemiro.cz. In St. Rocha Church and host to contemporary and classical artists including Goya, Dalí, Chagall, Warhol and Picasso. A privately owned gallery and on the tourist trail between the castle and Strahov monastery. Tram N°22 or 23 to Pohořelec. ▶ Open 10:00 - 17:00.



Galerie La Femme E-2, Praha 1, Bilkova 2, ☞ Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 224 81 26 56, www.glf.cz. Galerie La Femme was founded in the centre of the Prague Old Town opposite to the hotel

Intercontinental in 2000. Its primary interest is the theme of woman in her countless forms as the eternal source of inspiration for many artists. The exhibited works will show you a woman beautiful and perfect but also flawed and vain. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00.



Galerie Václava Špály Praha 1, Národní 30, ☞ Mústek, tel. (+420) 602 675 362, www.spalovka.cz. The Galerie Václava Špály is once again open to the public and promising the same prestigious exhibitions it was once renowned for. Špála was a Czech avant-garde painter

from the early 20th century. The museum's heyday was in the late 60's-early 70's, and again after 1989. The gallery is now focusing on mid-generation Czech artists. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 20/10Kč.

Gallery KusKovu J-3, Praha 1, Biskupský dvůr 6, ☞ Nám. Republiky, tel. (+420) 737 20 01 27, www.kuskovu.cz. The Piece of Metal gallery is a blacksmith's delight, showing and selling metal sculptures, objects and jewellery. ▶ Open 13:00 - 20:00, Sat 13:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon.

House at the White Unicorn (Dům u bílého jednorožce) E-3, Praha 1, Staroměstské nám. 15, ☞ Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 31 39 09, www.dalexhibition.cz. This central exhibition space caters to the big names, and not only in Czech art. Much to the delight of the world's moustache aficionados, this house is exhibiting a selection of graphics, sculpture and pottery from **Salvador Dalí**. Another area is dedicated to **Alfons Mucha**, the master of Art Nouveau while a neighbouring house (E-3, Praha 1, Celetná 9, tel. 222 31 30 64) hosts a selection of images from the infamous photographer **Jan Saudek**. ▶ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Admission 150/70Kč. Saudek & Mucha 150/70Kč or 250/120Kč combined ticket.



Kafka Museum C-2, Praha 1, Hergetova Cihelna, Cihelná 2b, tel. (+420) 257 53 55 07, www.kafkamuseum.cz. This new collection entitled *The City of K.* Franz Kafka and Prague opened in Barcelona in 1999,

transferred to the Jewish Museum in New York in 2002 and opened in Prague in the summer of 2005. This museum illuminates the crucial relationship between the man and the city. It is divided into **Existent Space** where we see what Prague did with and to Kafka, and **Imaginary Topography** which looks at how Kafka creates enigmatic layers of his city through first editions and letters, diaries and manuscripts, and audiovisual pieces. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Admission 120/60Kč.

Kampa Museum B-3, Praha 1, U Sovových mlýnů 2, tel. (+420) 257 28 61 47, www.museumkampa.cz. Museum Kampa is located on the west bank of the Vltava in the shadow of Prague Castle. The museum has on display three major permanent exhibitions, featuring works by the pioneering abstract artist František Kupka, Cubist sculptor Otto Gutfreund and a large collection of modern works dating from the 1950's to present day by Central European artists. They also have temporary exhibits. The museum has a beautiful restaurant with an outside terrace overlooking the river. A visit to Museum Kampa is definitely worthwhile. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Admission varies according to exhibition.



Leica Gallery Praha 1, Školská 28, MÚstek, tel. (+420) 777 918 866, www.lgp.cz. Excellent photo gallery with stunning rotating exhibits from Czech and international photographers.

Check out their cafe and bookshop, too. ▶ Open 11:00 - 21:00. Closed Sun.



Miniatures Museum Praha 1, Strahovské nádvoří 11, tel. (+420) 233 35 23 71, www.muzeum-miniatur.com. This museum contains odd scribbles on grains of rice, the Lord's Prayer

written on one human hair, the world's smallest book, and miniatures of masterpieces. They have magnifying glasses. ▶ Open 09:00 - 17:00. Admission 50Kč.



Mucha Museum F-4, Praha 1, Panská 7, MÚstek, tel. (+420) 224 216 415, www.mucha.cz. Mucha shaped the Art Nouveau movement with his groundbreaking (and often stolen from Paris' streets) posters for actress Sarah Bernhardt and the

Theatre de la Renaissance, and has some renown as a photographer with the studies for his various masterpieces. He also has an excellent shot of a trouserless Paul Gauguin at a harmonium. A fitting tribute to artistic genius, whether you prefer his pastel seasons, the accusing desperation of the Slav Epic (his incomplete and huge magnum opus of which there are strangely no photos), or modern prints on everything from coasters to mousepads. Don't miss the short biographical film. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Admission 120Kč.



Museum of Communism F-4, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 10, tel. (+420) 224 21 29 66, www.muzeumkomunismu.cz. The posters featuring the workers of the state, featuring a mix of socialist-realism which produces

simultaneous hilarity and dark brooding, are almost worth the entrance fee on their own. Errant and erratic household objects can give this place an incomplete feel, however, the photos and historical information on display are a minimalist introduction to the events of this period. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00. Admission 180Kč.

Museum of Young Art Praha 1, Karlova 2, M Staroměstská, tel. +420 240 20 02 07, museumartbanka.cz, www.artbanka.cz. The only museum dedicated to young Czech artists is now open next to the Charles Bridge. Interesting, innovative and provocative; discover the next crop of Czech artists now. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Closed Mon. 170 CZK.



Muzeum Karlova Mostu (Charles Bridge Museum) D-3, Praha 1, Křižovnické nám. 3, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 776 776 779, www.muzeumkarlovamostu.cz.

This new museum, opened to coincide with the 650th anniversary of the building of Charles Bridge in 1357 (the clever number logo is no coincidence, 135797531. The first stone was laid at 05:31 on 9 July). English texts are available to explain the unique Knights of the Red Cross hospital location, their church and crypt, various bridges; an arch and pillar of the even older (1158 - 1172) Judit Bridge, and others in the region, construction techniques, etc. Charles Bridge, with its statues and history, is the focus but there is so much more. Fascinating. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. 150/70Kč.



National Technical Museum I-2, Praha 7, Kostelní 42, tel. (+420) 220 39 91 11, fax (+420) 233 37 18 01, www.ntm.cz. Newly reopened after a four year reconstruction, the National

Technical Museum offers new exhibitions plus a much needed update of their tried-and-true. The great collection of unrestored cars, motorbikes, trains and other transportation beauties has been joined by a beautiful new architecture exhibit, one on photography, astronomy and more. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 170/90Kč.



Robert Guttman Gallery (Jewish Museum) E-2, Praha 1, U Staré školy 3, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 221 71 15 11, www.jewishmuseum.cz. As synagogues and prayer rooms began to be demolished by

Prague's municipal offices at the end of the 19th century, the Czech-Jewish community applied their vigour to creating a Jewish Museum wherein ritual objects could be saved from destruction and kept for future generations. Thus, in 1906 Prague's Jewish Museum began with a modest collection. Today, it is celebrating its centenary with an exhibit here entitled Defying the Beast (until 1 Oct). The museum is closed on Jewish holidays too. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00. Closed Sat. Admission 40/20Kč.



Rudolfinum D-2, Praha 1, Alšovo nábř. 12, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 227 05 92 05, www.galerierudolfinum.cz. Commissioned as concert halls and exhibition space and named after the Austrian Prince Royal who attended

the opening in 1885, this is now home to the Czech Philharmonic and an exhibition space. With no permanent collection, the gallery is dedicated to temporary exhibitions. ▶ Open 10:00 - 17:30, Thu 10:00 - 19:30. Closed Mon. Admission 120/60Kč. ☒

Smetana Museum C-3, Praha 1, Novotného lávka 1, tel. (+420) 222 22 00 82, www.nm.cz. Classical appreciation goes high tech. When you point the special laser conductor's baton at music stands in this museum, excerpts from Smetana's works come to life. Bedřich Smetana was a Czech symphonic poet, whose masterpiece was the nationalistic *My Fatherland*, which includes a musical ode to the Vltava. ▶ Open 10:00 - 12:00&12:30-17:00. Closed Tue. Admission 50/20Kč.

Torture Museum B-2, Praha 1, Křižovnické nám. 1, tel. (+420) 723 360 479. Medieval torture instruments from all parts of Europe. Take the kids to show them how nice you actually are. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00. Admission 120/100Kč.



Troja Chateau Praha 1, U trojského zámku 1, M Nádraží Holešovice, tel. (+420) 283 85 16 14, www.citygalleryprague.cz.

A grand 17th century summer palace built for Count Václav Vojtěch Sternberg, Troja has French gardens littered with Baroque sculptures right on the river below the Botanical gardens and next to the Zoo. It was originally situated here to be opposite Stromovka royal game preserve (now Stromovka Park), which it is linked to today by a pedestrian bridge, but be warned it is no short walk to the closest tram stop once you start. Jean-Baptiste Mathey designed the palace, which Sternberg spared no expense on. Its most striking feature is the external double staircase ornamented by statues of Titanic struggles with Olympian gods. The interior is no less impressive with magnificent vaulted ceilings, paintings, sculptures, murals and frescoes - especially the giant, florid tribute to a Hapsburg victory in the Grand Hall. After major reconstruction of the house and garden in 1998, the Chateau became an annex of the City Gallery, housing a collection of Baroque glass and a collection of 19th century Czech paintings. Troja was hard hit in the 2002 floods, but the gardens and house are back in their former glory. From the metro, hop on tram 5, 17, 25 to Trojská or bus 112 to the Zoo. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 120/60Kč, gardens free.



Veletržní Palace (National Gallery) I-1, Praha 7, Dukelských hrdinů 47, M Vltavská, tel. (+420) 224 30 11 11, www.ng-prague.cz. The stunning modernist Veletržní Palace houses the National Gallery's

collection of modern and contemporary art, including works by Klimt and Frank Gehry. The building is so big that they split entrance fees by how many of its three floors you wish to visit. Tram N°5,12,17 to Veletržní. The space also hosts concerts now. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission 160/80.



Curiosities Dancing Fountains (Křižikova Fontána) Praha 7, Průmyslový palác (Výstaviště), tel. (+420) 220 10 32 80, www.krizikovafontana.cz. Water and lights accompanied by music

(from Carmina Burana to Queen) and on occasion, people. This is actually far more enthralling than it sounds - really.

Vítkov Memorial



High on a hill is a massive equestrian statue. Making your way up that hill is inviting for a number of reasons. While a better jaunt in the summer, the views of Prague are still lovely and the park surrounding the memorial is a decent stroll. The statue is that of Hussite leader Jan Žižka. It took sculptor Bohumil Kafka about ten years to complete the 16 ton, nine metre high statue. The mass of marble was originally built in the early 1930s as the National Liberation Memorial to honour those who fought for the birth of the Czechoslovak Republic. After 1948, it became more of a monument to Communism, with a variety of Party leaders having their remains kept there. After 1989, the remains were removed and the building basically fell off the map. In 2001, the memorial was transferred to the National Museum who thought long and hard what to do with it. After two years of reconstruction, the building is finally open to the public. You can tour the ceremonial hall, visit the new café and even climb atop the building to the impressive viewing platform.

A new permanent exhibition has been installed, Crossroads of Czechoslovakia. This multimedia exhibit highlights important "crossroad" years throughout the country's history: 1918 and the creation of Czechoslovakia; the Munich Accords from 1938; Communist coup of 1948; Prague Spring in 1968 and the Velvet Revolution of 1989. A separate room offers rotating exhibition space. Currently on is Prague Castle Photographs Archive 1918-1933.

Vítkov Memorial, Praha 3, U Památníku 1900, 222 78 16 76, www.nm.cz. Closed Mondays. Take bus 175 or 133 from the Florenc metro station to Tachovské náměstí. Cross the street and head through the tunnel, into the park and up the hill.

Victims of Communism Memorial A-4, Újezd tram stop. Near the funicular railway station and opposite the Újezd tram stop, there is a controversial memorial to the victims of communism. A group of statues by Olbram Zoubek emerge into totality as they walk, or are at various stages of destruction, depending how you look at it. Why are they controversial? Other artists say they are kitschy, while feminists are angry because all the figures are male and they (quite rightly) claim women were persecuted under the communists regime too. The memorial was damaged by two bomb attacks in late 2003.



Villa Müller Praha 6, Nad Hradním vodojemem 14, tel. (+420) 224 31 20 12, www.mullerovavila.cz. This icon of modern architecture was designed by Moravian-born Adolf Loos for construction magnate František Müller

in 1930. The building looks like a solid white block from the outside, though the interior is constructed with marble, mahogany and walnut, highly polished and cleanly designed. The rooms all sit at various levels around an ascending sweeping spiral. Tram N^o1,18 to Ořešhovka. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon, Wed, Fri. Admission 300/200Kč, 100Kč extra for an English guide. Tours by appointment only.

Junior Prague

AquaPalace Aqua Park Pražská 138, tel. (+420) 271 10 41 11, info@aquapalace.cz, www.aquapalace.cz. When one more museum will just about do them in; treat the kids to a watery side of Prague. No, we don't mean toss them in the Vltava, but bring them to AquaPalace Aqua Park. Pools, slides, wave pool, whirlpool and a river, plus a variety of saunas and a fitness centre for the adults. Plan on spending the day. Take bus 324, 325, 328, 363 or 385 from the Opatov metro station to the Čestlice stop. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00. Prices vary depending on the day of the week and the time of day. For two hours on a Saturday it's 300Kč for an adult and 200Kč for a child.

Mirror Labyrinth (Zrcadlové bludiště) A-4, Praha 1, Petřínské sady, tel. (+420) 724 911 497. Right next to the Petřín Tower is a hall of mirrors - you may even get your kids to come in if the ice cream vendors haven't caught their eye first. March into the mini-castle to see how you would look if you were short and squat or tall and skinny. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Admission 50 - 70Kč.

Planetarium Praha 7, Královská obora 233, M Nádrazí Holešovice, tel. (+420) 220 99 90 01, www.planetarium.cz. Prague's planetarium, opened in 1960, is the largest in the Czech Republic and one of the largest in the world. Its astronomical dome can accommodate 250 people and it houses three projectors in one building. Go to see shows of the stars (the astronomical kind) as well as the permanent exhibition. ▶ Admission 50 - 150Kč.

Seaworld Praha 7, Výstaviště, M Holešovice, tel. (+420) 220 10 33 05, www.morsky-svet.cz. A loop audio tape of tidal wash envelops Prague's little known aquarium, Mořský Svět. The suspended manta ray may be huge, but the tanks are small although well stocked with tropical and fresh water fish. One tank has, we presume in honour of Finding Nemo, clown fish and a tang. Deadly but beautiful scorpion and turkey fish languish looking like fully sailed galleons, and soft corals billow in the current. It's not huge, but makes an interesting detour. Signs are Czech only. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00. 190/150Kč.

Landmarks



Funicular Railway A-4, Újezd tram stop. The funicular runs up Petřín Hill providing beautiful views of Prague and the castle. There are two restaurants sitting at the half-way point - there is a station there. Use regular 20Kč tickets. Trams run at 15 min intervals. ▶ Open 09:00 - 11:20.



Náměstí Míru J-5/6, M Nám. Míru. In Czech this means Peace Square and it is dominated by a soaring two-tower basilica, the neo-gothic Saint Ludmila Church (Kostel sv. Ludmily). This beautiful church was constructed from 1888 to 1893 and bears the creative power of many renowned artists, including sculptor Josef Václav Myslbek, who also fashioned the statue

of St. Wenceslas. Ludmila (860 - 921) was born in Mělník and baptised, probably by St. Methodius, in 871. After her husband died their son assumed the throne and had two sons with his pagan wife Drahomíra; Boleslav and Wenceslas, the latter later to become the patron saint of the Czech Republic. Ludmila was strangled at the hand or the behest of Drahomíra who resented her meddling with the budding Christian, Wenceslas. She is celebrated on 16 September and is patron to, among others, converts, widows and those with problematic in-laws... Náměstí Míru (green line A) is the deepest of Prague's metro stations and as such has one of the longest escalators in Europe - 87m long with a vertical span of 43m - without walking, it takes over 2 minutes to ascend/descend. The park hosts many festivals including the late September *burčák* festival and the Christmas market. The square has an almost starring role in the 2006 remake of cult horror classic, *The Omen*.



Petřín Tower (Petřínská rozhledna) A-4, M Petřín funicular, tel. (+420) 724 911 497. At the top of Petřín Hill stands a 60m-high bad copy of the Eiffel Tower, affording great views of the city. The building was completed in May 20, 1891. An alternative route to the castle is to ride the funky funicular up Petřín Hill and walk pass the tower across to the castle area. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Open Sat & Sun 10:00 - 17:00. Admission 50/40/10Kč.



The Dancing House (Tančící dům) G-5, Praha 2, Rašínovo nábř. 80. Frank Gehry's design for this building was inspired by the dancing team Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire. Built in 1996, this structure more

than cuts a swathe than the Austrian-Hungarian terrace blocks that make up most of Prague.

Parks & Gardens

Botanical Gardens (Botanická zahrada) Praha 7, Nádvoří 134, M Nádrazí Holešovice, tel. (+420) 234 14 81 11, www.botgarden.cz. An outdoor section with vineyard, chapel, bonsai, a Japanese Zen garden, greenhouses and wonderful views of the city. A little further up the hill is the Fata Morgana greenhouse exhibiting desert, high sierra and tropical plants in a realistic setting. Residents include butterflies, moths, frogs and greenery galore. Bus N^o112 from the metro station. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00. Fata Morgana closed Mon. Admission 120/60Kč.



Kampa Park G-4, Kampa Island. Featuring a well-equipped children's playground, Kampa Park is caressed by water on all sides thanks to the millstream known as the *Devil's Stream*. The park is notable for its serenity in the midst of the centre, and is popular with couples, the local and expat hippy population, as well as families enjoying the playground. You can also feed the ducks or visit one of the cafés. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00.

Petřín A-3/4, . With stunning views of the city and a choice of gardens and trails to explore, Petřín is packed with activities or lazing opportunities. Features include the tower, a mirror hall, an 18th century Ukrainian wooden church and Prague's lovers enjoying ... ah, the view.

Stromovka, M Holešovice. The huge park where Rudolph II once enjoyed a spot of hunting is now full of in-line skaters (find rentals along the path to the Planetarium), bicycles, frisbees and footballs. At the end near Výstaviště are several pubs and restaurants. Check out the art installation section that features a larger-than-life lady lying half in the water and a floating deck with perfectly sculpted duck heads. Take the tram to Výstaviště.

Troja Chateau Praha 7, U trojského zámku 1, M Nádrazí Holešovice, tel. (+420) 283 8516 14, www.citygalleryprague.cz. A grand 17th century summer palace built for Count Václav Vojtěch Sternberg, Troja has French gardens littered with Baroque sculptures right on the river below the Botanical gardens and next to the Zoo. It was originally situated here to be opposite Stromovka royal game preserve (now Stromovka Park), which it is linked to today by a pedestrian bridge, but be warned it is no short walk. Admission 120/60Kč for the gallery inside, gardens free. From the metro, hop on tram 5, 17, 25 to Trojská. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon.



Zoo Praha Praha 7, U Trojského zámku 3, M Nádrazí Holešovice, tel. (+420) 296 11 21 11, www.zoopraha.cz. Zoo Praha is a really cool zoo. Following the floods of 2002 (in which there was an unfortunate loss of animal life

that was broadcast round the world) many improvements to infrastructure and the animal's homes have been made.

Big ones, like elephants, lions and tigers can be spotted, but don't miss the gorillas, penguins, kangaroos, giraffes, parrots, wolves and hyenas. Recent additions have included an Indonesian Jungle and the just opened (04/2008) pavilion for a group of rare Indian crocodiles. Seven young Gaviel cross are now at home here - the only European zoo to house this critically endangered specie. Zoo officials hope they'll settle in nicely and reproduce. That's another special aspect of the Zoo Praha - their conservation efforts. The facility was instrumental in preventing the extinction of Przewalski horses in the '60's and hopes to have similar success with the Gaviels. Additional highlights include the Gorilla Pavilion and African Jungle. Definitely the place to come to if you have little ones in tow - there's an excellent petting zoo and kids play area. A train ride through the zoo, a chair lift ride above the zoo or wagon-like vehicles for the kids are available for tired tootsies. Shaded, well-laid out paths make this a good visit, even on warm days.

The zoo opened in 1931 and today spreads over 60 hectares and is home to nearly 5,000 animals. Concession stands shockingly don't jack up the prices, so an entire day can easily be spent here. Take bus N^o112 from metro station Nádrazí Holešovice or even stretch your legs further and walk across the Vltava River via the footbridge from Stromovka park. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00. March 09:00-17:00, Apr, May, Sep, Oct - 09:00-18:00, Jun, Jul, Aug - 09:00-19:00, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb - 09:00-16:00 Admission 150/100Kč.

Walking & Bike Tours

Segway Experience Praha 1, Mostecká 4, M Malostranská, tel. +420 731 23 82 64, info@segwayfun.eu, www.segwayfun.eu. Prague's cobblestone streets and steep hills can get to even the most hardy of travelers. Take it easy and cruise the city in style on a Segway. Segway Experience offers a variety of themed tours in addition to their city tour, like a movie tour, romantic trip or the Prague Zoo. ▶ City tour starts daily at 11:00 & 15:00 1500 CZK for their city tour.





Centrum Černý Most Praha 9, Chlumecká 6, **Černý Most**, tel. (+420) 281 91 81 00, info@inbaillorodamco.com, www.centrumcernymost.cz. Bata, Citizen centrum, DM Drogerie markt, Eiffel Optic, Jasmin, Kenvelo, McDonald's, Mustang, Ethno and many more. ▶ Open 09:00 - 22:00.

Černá růže F-3, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 12, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 221 01 41 11, www.cernaruze.cz. All the right shops and some fine extras in this larger-than-it-appears centre. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 19:00, Sun 11:00 - 19:00.

Letňany Praha 9, Veselská 663, **Letňany**, tel. (+420) 284 05 11 11, www.oc-letnany.cz. One of Prague's biggest and best, with local and international brand names for retail, food and entertainment. Take the free bus from the metro station to the mall. Ice rink, aquacentre and a super kid's corner make this an all day getaway. Through the end of the summer check out some massive artistic sand sculptures. ▶ Open 10:00 - 21:00. Shopping Centre 09:00 - 21:00, hypermarket 24hrs.

Metropole Zličín Praha 5, Řevnická 1, **Zličín**, tel. (+420) 257 11 15 11, metropole@metropole.cz, www.metropole.cz. ▶ Open 10:00 - 24:00.

Myslbek F-3, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 21, **Nám. Republiky**, tel. (+420) 224 23 95 50, www.myslbek.com. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00.

Nový Smíchov Praha 5, Plzeňská 8, **Anděl**, tel. (+420) 251 511 151, www.novysmichov.eu. Home to Carrefour and more. The games arcade is fabulous and Palace Cinemas are on the top floor. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00.

Palác Flóra Praha 3, Vinohradská 151, **Flóra**, tel. (+420) 255 74 17 12, www.palacflora.cz. New and very chic shopping centre, with over 120 shops, as well as restaurants, cafés, a cinema multiplex and an IMAX theatre. All in the centre of Prague. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00.

Palladium nám. Republiky 1, **nám. Republiky**, tel. (+420) 225 770 250, www.palladiumpraha.cz. Prague's newest and brightest mall. What used to be an army barracks is now home to a huge variety of shops. A gourmet

floor and lots of restaurants means you could easily lose a day amidst the 5 floors of climate-controlled amusement. ▶ Open 7:00 - 22:00.

Park Hostivař Praha 10, Švehlova 1391/32, **Salka**, tel. (+420) 267 18 41 11, info@parkhostivar.cz, www.parkhostivar.cz.

Shopping Park Praha Praha 5, Skandinávská 1 - 27, **Zličín**, tel. (+420) 296 77 79 99, avion.praha@ikea.com, www.praque.avionshoppingpark.cz. IKEA, Tesco, GigaSport, DatArt megastore, La Halle, Kenvelo, Computer City, Bata, Grand Optical, McDonald's, Segafredo Espresso. Pick up the shopping centre's bus from outside Zličín metro station. ▶ Open 10:00 - 20:00.

Slovanský Dům F-3, Praha 1, Na Příkopě 22, **Nám. Republiky**, tel. (+420) 221 45 14 00, www.slovanskymuzem.cz. High end retail shops, a multiplex cinema and Kogo restaurant attract the right people at this central shopping centre. ▶ Open 10:00 - 20:00.

Vinohradský Pavilon J-5, Praha 2, Vinohradská 50, **Nám. Míru**, tel. (+420) 222 09 71 11, www.pavilon.cz. After a lengthy refurbishment, nothing seems to have changed inside this old market building. There's an Albert supermarket, excellent UNICEF shop, dry cleaning, key cutting, wine sellers (or is that cellars?), a new Ambiente cafe, and a few vacant stores. The building is a Wi-Fi hotspot. ▶ Open 08:00 - 21:00. Shops open 09:00 - 21:00, except Sundays 10:00 - 21:00.

Speciality shops

de.facto E-4, Praha 1, Vejdovova 447/3, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 224 23 38 15, www.defakto.cz. Beautifully designed objets, furniture, gifts, kitchenware, soft furnishings and oddities at this excellent shop which has a tinge of the Ikea style and more but without the schlep out to Zličín. ▶ Open 09:30 - 18:00.

Diana Na Poříčí 35, **Nám. Republiky**, tel. (+420) 224 815 231, diana.company@diana-company.cz, www.diana-company.cz. They call themselves the Empire of Nuts. Diana offers a great fruit assortment as well as hard to find nuts, Japanese rice cracker mixes and yummy goodies covered in chocolate, carob, caramel and yogurt. ▶ Open Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri 8:00 - 18:00, Sat 8:00 - 17:00.

La Bretagne E-2, Praha 1, Široká 22, **Staroměstská**. Small fish shop with a take away sushi stand. It doesn't get much fresher than this. Get your vino here too. ▶ Open 09:30 - 19:30. Closed Sun.

MPV Cereus Design - Salt Crystal Lamps I-5, Praha 2, Bělehradská 1, **I.P. Pavlova**, tel. (+420) 224 23 46 51. Healing salt lamps from Himalayas, or so they claim. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Naoko I-3, Praha 1, Revoluční 24, **Nám. Republiky**, tel. (+420) 222 31 25 67, www.naoko.cz. Excellent selection of design products that you may not really need, but which look fantastic. ▶ Open 11:00 - 19:00, Sat 11:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

Qubus F-2, Praha 1, Rámová 3, **Nám. Republiky**, tel. (+420) 222 31 31 51, www.qubus.cz. Fabulous design shop off Dlouhá selling hip goods from bizarre clocks to ceramic Wellington boots as vases. They are also the Czech distributor of funky-ass Lomo cameras. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Studio Chic I-5, Praha 2, Anglická 4, **I.P. Pavlova**, tel. (+420) 224 22 07 04, www.studiochic.cz. Fancy dress costume rental for kids and adults. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Sat 09:00 - 16:00. Closed Sun. Also at Praha 2, Žitná 40.

Sport shops

Giga Sport F-3, Praha 1, Na příkopě 19-21, tel. (+420) 224 23 35 52, www.gigasport-cr.cz. A Czech sporting superstore - all the brands and a massive range meaning good for the all-round sportsman but a little lacking in specialisation. ▶ Open 09:30 - 19:00.

Happy Sport Praha 9, Beranových 127, tel. (+420) 286 92 01 12, www.happysport.cz. Skiing and snowboarding equipment rental, sales and services amongst other sport equipment. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun. Also at Praha 4, Kotorská 1598, tel. 241 40 39 43; Praha 6, Národní obrany 16, tel. 224 32 55 60.

Hudy Sport I-3, Praha 1, Havlíčkova 11, tel. (+420) 224 81 30 10, www.hudy.cz. Outdoor shop. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:30, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun. Also at D-4, Praha 1, Na Perštýně 14, tel. 224 21 86 00, open 09:00 - 18:30, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun.

JB Sport I-3, Praha 1, Dlázďená 3, tel. (+420) 224 21 09 21, www.jbsport.cz. They have a lot of ice-hockey equipment should you be big, butch and have twinkle toes. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun.

Pomi Praha 2, Slavojova 10, tel. (+420) 224 93 64 42, www.pomi.cz. Complete equipment and service for skiers age 2 to 100 years. ▶ Open 09:30 - 19:30. Closed Sat, Sun.

Umbro F-3, Praha 1, Na příkopě 7, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 224 22 57 25. Famous footballing gear. Also in Nový Smíchov shopping centre. ▶ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 19:00, Sun 11:00 - 17:00.

Toys

Games & Puzzles H-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 38, tel. (+420) 224 94 65 06, www.hras.cz. Games and mind teasers. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Sat 11:00 - 16:00. Closed Sun.

MPM H-5, Praha 2, Myslíkova 19, **Národní třída**, tel. (+420) 224 93 02 57, mpm.myslikova@volny.cz, www.mpmshop.cz. This large shop sells kits for planes, trains and automobiles. Oh, and ships, too. ▶ Open 09:00 - 18:00, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun.

Rocking Horse Toy Shop Loretánské náměstí 3, tel. +420 603 515 745, ivkarhan@seznam.cz. A tiny shop, founded 1999, crammed with Czech toys - wooden toys, wind-up toys, stuffed toys, dolls, puppets, folk toys - and a special selection of wooden toys from the Erzgebirge mountains of Germany. No plastic, no toy weapons (!), no computer games. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:30.

Sparkys E-3, Praha 1, Havířská 2, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 224 23 93 09, havirska@sparkys.cz, www.sparkys.cz. Over four floors of toys and gifts where the latest fads jostle for space with traditional Czech wooden toys. Indulge your child or even yourself. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Sun 10:00 - 18:00.

Sparkys Palladium Praha 1, náměstí Republiky 1, **Náměstí Republiky**, tel. 225 77 17 50, palladium@sparkys.cz, www.sparkys.cz. Children can be tamed in big massive malls with a stop off at Sparkys. The toy store is a great mix of stuffed animals, games, cool hip toys and some retro ones as well. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00.

Wine

Cellarius I-4, Praha 1, Štěpánská 61, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 224 21 09 79, lucerna@cellarius.cz, www.cellarius.cz. In a cellar, in Vinohrady no less, this wooden emporium offers 1500 wines from all over the world. A good place to come to learn about the vineyard secrets of Moravia. ▶ Open 09:30 - 20:00, Sun 14:00 - 20:00. Also at Budečská 29.

Club Monarch D-4, Praha 1, Na Perštýně 15, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 224 23 96 02, perstyn@monarch.cz, www.monarchvinnysklep.cz. Monarch offers their excellent list of new world wines in the shop, in the cellar, online, or in your home from their mobile bar. ▶ Open 15:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun.

National Wine Bank D-3, Praha 1, Křižovnická 1, **Staroměstská**, tel. (+420) 266 71 04 99, info@monarch.cz, www.monarch.cz. Give them your money and take their wine. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Sat 13:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun.

Wine Shop E-3, Praha 1, Havelská 25, **Mústek**, tel. (+420) 724 23 90 45, info@vino-klub.cz, www.vino-klub.cz. A deep cellar and obsessive approach, concentrating on the classic European regions, are offered in the shop or online. ▶ Open 11:00 - 19:00. Closed Sun.



Massage

Ayurvedic Ceylon Praha 10, Na Šafránc 17, Náměstí Míru, tel. (+420) 271 74 21 86, ayurmedic@ayurmedic.cz, http://www.ac-masaze.cz/. Ayurveda aims to merge harmony and health, viewing the body as a whole. Ayurvedic massage is a comprehensive technique designed to relax the body while relieving mental stress and tension. The Ayurvedic Centrum has highly trained masseuses who can perform a number of treatments to refresh and renew. ▶ Open 9:00 - 20:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Cordeus Spa Praha 6, Na Dlouhém lánu 11, tel. +420 251 09 73 11, info@cordeus.cz, www.cordeus.cz. Need a sightseeing break? Pamper your tootsies, back, neck and sooth your soul at Cordeus Spa. This all in one personal renewal spa offers massages and wraps, detox programs, plus exercise classes if the hills in Prague are just not enough for you. ▶ Open 8:00 - 21:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Golden Kinnaree - thajské masáže I-3, Praha 1, Revoluční 4, Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 734 47 72 11, info@goldenkinnaree.cz, www.goldenkinnaree.cz. Get pulled into a more relaxed body and mind at Golden Kinnaree. All massages are performed by native Thai masseuses, ensuring accredited practitioners well-versed in the nuances of touch. Business people will especially appreciate their massage targeted to office workers and everyone who has spent a day wandering Prague's cobblestoned streets will rejoice in a foot massage. Also located in Hotel Globus, Gregorova 10, Praha 4, Tel.: 732 52 68 77 ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00.

Harmony Spa H-6, Praha 2, Rašínovo nábřeží 36, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. +420 733 31 13 81, info@harmonyspa.cz, www.harmonyspa.cz. Harmonize your relationship in Prague by indulging in a tantra or other special massage at Harmony Spa. A full menu of offerings including ritual massages and baths will relax and calm you. ▶ Open 09:00 - 22:00.

Ilandra K-6, Praha 2, Francouzská 31, Náměstí Míru, tel. (+420) 773 58 28 12, info@ilandra.com, www.ilandra.com. Ilandra promises their hands will restore your life energy. At least you'll be relaxed. Therapeutic, sport, reflex, tantric, Chinese and Indian massages are all on offer. They also offer home and office visits. ▶ 60 minutes - 1500 CZK/90 minutes - 2000 CZK/Therapeutic, sports and reflex types of massage: 40 minutes - 1000 CZK.

Lakshmi - Temple of tantra massage in Prague Praha 5, Slávy Horníka 17, tel. +420 776 49 76 22, info@lakshmi.cz, www.lakshmi.cz. Lakshmi is the temple of tantra massage in Prague. Here you can experience the relaxing and opening results of this unique procedure. Lakshmi offers an individual approach and awakens your internal energy. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00. Massages start from 1600Kč/90mins.

Emergency Numbers

**Ambulance tel. (+420) 155.
City Police tel. (+420) 156.
Fire tel. (+420) 150.
International Emergency tel. (+420) 112.
Police tel. (+420) 158.**

Miracle Salon G-5, Masarykova nábř. 4, Praha 2, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 224 922 562, info@salonmiracle.cz, www.salonmiracle.cz. With their menu of wellness, hair and face treatments a miracle very likely could be performed. If nothing else, you'll feel amazing when it is all over. Miracle Spa offers body wraps and peels; a variety of anti-aging face treatments; and of course the all important relaxing baths, massage and thalassotherapy. Ahh, it's a miracle! ▶ Open 8:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 17:00. Closed Sun.

Mystic Temple F-2, Dlouhá 39, Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 77 95 10, info@mystic-temple.cz, www.mystic-temple.cz. Emphasis is on balance and harmony. Individual rooms provide extra privacy and English speakers make life easier for any instructions. In addition to Thai massage, they offer classic massage, cosmetic treatments, a hair salon, manicures and pedicures. Try the hot stones. One hour Thai massage is 950Kč. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00.

Nam Jai Thai Massage D-2, Kaprova 11, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 32 87 47, info@namjai.cz, www.namjai.cz. Here you'll get an authentic, stretching, vertebrae popping session of traditional Wat Pho massage. Back & Head, Foot and oil massages are also available. One hour Thai massage 700Kč. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00.

Sabai I-4, Na Příkopě 22, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 221 45 11 80, slovanskym@sabai.cz, www.sabai.cz. By far the smartest and most expensive of the Thai massage options here, but is it worth it? Well, yes it is. Quiet and private - even the foot massage rooms are individual. Excellent staff, English spoken and relaxed ambience. Traditional Thai 990Kč for one hour. Reservations recommended. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00.

Shanti G-5, Praha 5, Preslova and Kořenského Streets, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 257 31 29 46, info@massageshanti.cz, www.massageshanti.cz. This luxury Asian spa will soothe and heal, Thai-style. Choose from a wonderful menu of procedures, including a slimming hot oil massage, face and scalp relaxation massage or a traditional Thai massage. For a supreme experience, go for one of their aroma oil or herbal massages. ▶ Open 10:00 - 21:00.

Tawan - Thai massages H-3, Náměstí Curieových 100, tel. (+420) 234 614 163/(+420) 721 731 401, hotelpresident@tawan.cz, www.tawan.cz. Tawan has a variety of treatments including a classic Thai massage, an

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GOLDEN KINNAREE
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aroma oil massage and a detox massage, plus body treatments like peelings and wraps. Their most popular therapies use hot herbal packs. Some of their specials are interesting too, like the one-and-a-half hour foot and hand massage, or the Coconut Dream featuring an aroma massage using coconut oil. They offer gift certificates so you can give the gift of calm. Tawan is located in the Hotel President and they have two other locations; one inside the Holiday Inn Prague Congress Center and another in Prague 1 at Salvátorská 10. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00, Sat, Sun 9:00 - 21:00. 450-2190Kč. ☎

Thai Fit I-3, Na Poříčí 21, Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 224 81 18 76, info@thaifit.cz, www.thaifit.cz. The aroma of the adjacent Siam Orchid restaurant adds to the ambience of this great place and inspires what to do post massage. Eat. Anyway, the masseuse here was strong and achieved an incredible amount of vertebrae popping, exactly what the neck was in need of. Calm, quiet and recommended. 600Kč for one hour traditional Thai. ▶ Open 9:00 - 21:00.

Thai Orchidea F-4, Praha 1, Jindřišská 5, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 222 22 22 31, info@thai-orchidea.cz, www.thai-orchidea.cz. Tired back or legs? Revive them at Thai Orchidea. The pros here will focus on your sore points; or for an all-out body work over choose their traditional Thai massage, or special oil Thai massage. You'll leave stress-free and ready to take on the city. ▶ Open 10:00 - 21:00. Traditional Thai massage: 1 hour, 600Kč.

Thai World I-3, Praha 1, Celená 6, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 222 22 20 82, info@thai-world.cz, www.thaiworld.cz. This used to be the place to go but it seems they are resting on their laurels a tad. The masseuse spent more time massaging with one hand in order to hold open the curtain to see what/who was going on outside. She did notice pain in the shoulder which she applied Tiger Balm to. Good, not great. 599Kč for one hour traditional Thai. ▶ Open 9:30 - 21:30.

Zen Studio H-3, Praha 1, Široká 11, M Staroměstská, tel. (+420) 608 54 99 49, zenstudio@zenstudio.cz, www.zenstudio.cz. Calm and tranquility is the name of the game here. Zen Studio offers Thai massage, aromatic oil massage, herbal massage, plus they have a Jacuzzi and sauna. Their certified therapists will reduce tension while relaxing your body. Take a moment for Zen now. ▶ Open 12:00 - 22:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 22:00.

Beauty & Spas

Aquapalace Průhonice - Čestlice, Pražská 138, tel. (+420) 271 10 41 11, info@aquapalace.cz, www.aquapalace.cz. A gentle touch of luxury can be yours thanks to the variety of wellness and relaxation services at Aquapalace. Choose from body and cosmetic treatments; manicures and pedicures, plus Finnish and Roman saunas. From the Opatov (C, red line) metro station, take bus number 324, 325, 328, 363, 385 to Čestlice. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00.

Tantra Salon Praha 6, Šlikova 27, tel. +420 734 71 91 65, info@tantrasalon.cz, www.tantrasalon.cz. At Tantra Salon, magic hands provide traditional and non-traditional tantra massage that increases and spreads life-giving sexual energy. The massage can be tender, relaxing or dynamic, based on the needs of your body and mind. Certified and experienced masseurs, and their website occasionally offers discounts. ▶ Open 09:00 - 24:00.

Ice Hockey & Skating



The Czech Republic is one of the few countries to have a sport more popular than football, but being regular world champions in ice hockey have, not surprisingly, made it the national sport. They first won the world title in 1947 and took the title six times as Czechoslovakia before carrying on as the Czech Republic (five times, including 2005). The ELH (Extraliga ledního hokeje) containing 14 clubs, begins every September. The two Prague giants, Sparta and Slavia, are traditionally strong in this of course but have been overshadowed by the mighty Vsetin. A small industrial town close to the Slovak border, Vsetin was dawdling in the lower leagues until they were bought by Slovenian petroleum company Slovnaft in the early 1990s. Whilst all the top Czech players were following the carrots being dangled in the US, Vsetin snatched the best of the Russian and Slovak players. The formula money + sports club = success works a treat still and Vsetin have won the league five years out of the last six. Tickets to games are cheap (50 - 120Kč) and can be bought at the stadium.

HC Hvězda Praha Praha 6, Na rozdíl 1, tel. (+420) 235 35 27 59, fax (+420) 235 36 40 57, www.hc-hvezda.cz. ▶ Open 15:00 - 17:00 on Fri & Sun only.

HC Kobra Praha 4, Mikuleckého 1584, tel. (+420) 241 49 00 85, www.hckobra.cz.

HC Slavia Praha (O2 Arena) Praha 9, Ocelářská 2, M Českomoravská, tel. (+420) 266 12 11 22, www.hc-slavia.cz. Slavia has moved up in the world of ice with their new 18,000 seater home in Praha 9.

HC Sparta Praha (T-Mobile Aréna) Praha 7, Za Elektrárnou 419, tel. (+420) 266 72 74 75, www.hcsparta.cz. Cold and fairly dank, Sparta's playing ability seems to be following the standards of its venue...

SC Letňany Praha 9, Tupolevova 669, tel. (+420) 286 92 00 29, www.scleťany.cz.

Zimní stadion Nikolajka Praha 5, U Nikolajky 28, tel. (+420) 251 56 02 69. ▶ Open to the public 08:00 - 12:00, Fri 20:00 - 22:00, Sat, Sun 13:00 - 15:30.

Zimní stadion Štvanice Praha 7, Ostrov Štvanice 1125, tel. (+420) 233 37 83 27.

Lázně Hodnín Hodnín, Měst'anská 140, tel. (+420) 518 39 55 00, info@laznehodonin.cz, www.laznehodonin.cz. Lázně Hodnín is known for its iodine infused water, excellent for treating cardiovascular and muscular problems. The modern buildings and ideal surroundings make it a great choice.

Lázně Libverda Lázně Libverda 82, tel. (+420) 482 36 81 11, fax (+420) 482 36 81 10, info@lazne-libverda.cz, www.lazne-libverda.cz. Lázně Libverda in the Jizera Mountains focuses on treating heart and blood circulation diseases. Their local mineral springs were discovered in the 14th century and there are a variety of sporting and relaxing options on hand.

Lázně Malvazinky Praha Praha 5, U Malvazinky 5, M Anděl, tel. (+420) 251 11 66 02, info.mediterra@malvazinky.cz, www.malvazinky.cz. Here you'll find a variety of help in the area of sports medicine and physical therapy. Lázně Malvazinky Praha specializes in postoperative rehabilitation and muscular-skeletal problems.

Richmond Park Hotel Karlovy Vary, Slovenská 3, tel. (+420) 353 17 71 11, fax (+420) 353 22 21 69, reservation@richmond.cz, www.richmond.cz. We get all chilled-out just thinking about the Richmond Hotel. This stunning property is located on the outskirts of Karlovy Vary for a more peaceful stay. They offer a variety of relaxation programmes, including anti-ageing treatments, beauty weeks and relaxing days.

24-hour pharmacies

Lékárna Berytos Praha 6, Vítězná nám. 997/13, M Dejvická, tel. (+420) 224 32 55 20, lekarna.berytos@tiscali.cz.

Lékárna Letná Praha 7, Františka Křížka 22, M Vltavská, tel. (+420) 233 37 55 73.

Lékárna Palackého H-4, Praha 1, Palackého 5, tel. (+420) 224 94 69 82.

Lékárna U Svaté Ludmily J-6, Praha 2, Belgická 37, tel. (+420) 222 51 33 96.

Dentists

American Dental I-3, Praha 1, V Celnici 4, M Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 221 18 11 21, fax (+420) 221 18 11 20, info@americandental.cz, www.americandental.cz. Whether you have a pain in the mouth or looking to upgrade your smile, the professionals at American Dental can help. They have a full range of modern dentistry technology, plus offer a variety of teeth whitening systems. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00. Closed Sat, Sun. ☎

Brite Smile Praha 4, Na Květnici 700/1a, tel. (+420) 261 21 07 13/(+420) 724 12 29 88, info@britesmile.cz, www.britesmile.cz.

Dental Emergencies H-5, Praha 1, Spálená 12, M Národní třída, tel. (+420) 222 92 42 68. ▶ Open 24hrs.

Dental Live J-3, Praha 1, Ul. Těšnov 5, M Florenc, tel. (+420) 776 67 40 96, www.dentalive.cz. Whether just a cleaning or some more intense work; it'll get done with a smile at Dental Live. Weekend emergency? Call 776 67 40 96. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Erpet Medical Centre H-5, Praha 1, Pštrossova 10, M Karlovo náměstí, tel. (+420) 221 595 000, marketing@medical.erpet.cz, www.erpetmedical.cz. Emergency toothache or a new bright smile - the experts at Erpet can make it happen. Not only do they offer weekend emergency service (phone: +420 724 511 547) but also an array of reconstruction work like porcelain veneers and crowns and bridges. Their tagline is "We are here to make you smile" so get them to give your pearly whites a brush-up. ▶ Open 7:30 - 18:00. Closed Sat, Sun. ☎

Esthesia I-4, Opletalova 1013/59, M Náměstí republiky, tel. (+420) 284 68 05 30/(+420) 775 02 56 44, info@esthesia.cz, www.esthesia.cz. Dentistry of the highest order (cosmetic, preventive, orthodontics & implantology) using state of the art equipment combined with individual, after hours, professional and above all, pain-free care for a healthy happy smile. Take the metro to Náměstí republiky (Line B). ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00. Closed Sat, Sun. ☎

EsthetX Dental Clinic I-4, Praha 1, Václavské Náměstí 38, M Muzeum, tel. (+420) 776 77 22 44, info@esthetx.cz, www.esthetx.cz. Smile pretty. Or get yours fixed up. Complete range of dental services including preventative care and implants. ▶ Open 08:00 - 21:00, Fri 08:00 - 15:00. Closed Sat, Sun. ☎

European Dental Center Praha 8, Peckova 9, tel. (+420) 224 22 89 84, edc@quick.cz, www.edcdental.cz. A high-quality, modern dental centre providing both general and cosmetic dentistry, with a friendly atmosphere and relatively painless treatment. Implants, prosthetic work, crowns, bridges, inlays, orthodontics, periodontics and mouth surgery, and root canal treatment are all available, with support from digital x-ray. Plus the smile you want with the Brite-Smile system. ▶ Open 08:30 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun. ☎

GHC Klinika Praha I-5, Praha 1, Krakovská 8, tel. (+420) 222 21 12 06, www.ghc.cz. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00.

MUDr. Tomáš Pávek J-5, Praha 2, Mánesova 48, tel. (+420) 222 25 00 46. Emergency number 607 72 13 40. Offer professional, Western medical care in the centre of Prague. Also provide aesthetic dentistry, English, German and Russian spoken. ▶ Open 08:00 - 17:00. Closed Sat, Sun.

Hairdressing

Be Different Praha 1, Újezd 24, M Malostranská, tel. +420 608 20 99 53, praha@bedifferent.cz, www.bedifferent.cz. Located in the Hotel Roma, Be Different offers a salon experience like no other. Of course, getting a cut or colour can be handled by professionals, but here you can also try a variety of products, like Philip Martin's, Panpuri and Miriam Quevedo. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00.

Bomton I-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 43, tel. (+420) 224 23 16 89/(+420) 224 23 16 90, www.bomton.cz. Chain of upmarket salons to give you a pat on the head. ▶ Open 08:00 - 21:00, Sat 10:00 - 18:00, Sun 13:00 - 19:00. Also at H-5, Praha 1, Myslíkova 31, tel. 224 93 44 27, open 09:00 - 21:00, Sat 09:00 - 14:00. Closed Sun.

James Hair E-2, Praha 1, Malá Štupartská 9, tel. (+420) 224 82 73 73/(+420) 602 17 10 16, james@jameshair.cz, www.jameshair.cz. Upmarket bi-lingual hairdressers responsible for the president's wife's hairdo. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 17:00. Closed Mon, Sun.

Joshua K-6, Praha 10, Slovenská 2, tel. (+420) 222 52 01 26/(+420) 604 81 46 73, fax (+420) 222 51 46 53, info@joshua.cz, www.joshua.cz. Take a walk on the wilder side of the coiffure industry. We don't advise visiting on a whim or when inebriated. ▶ Open 8:30 - 23:00, Sat 10:00 - 16:00. Closed Sun.

Toni & Guy Praha 1, Dlouhá 13, M Náměstí Republiky, tel. (+420) 222 32 00 56, info@toniandguy.cz, www.toniandguy.cz. Cut and blow dry will set you back 800 - 1150Kč depending on who on their power ladder is doing the snipping. For the budget conscious, student cuts are 200Kč and colour is 450Kč. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Mon 12:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 17:00. Closed Sun.

Hospitals

Nemocnice Motol Praha 5, V úvalu 84, tel. (+420) 224 43 11 11/(+420) 224 43 36 81, reditelstvi@nfmotol.cz, www.nfmotol.cz. The operators of its emergency number speak English. Bus N°167 and 174. ▶ ☎

Nemocnice na Františku I-2, Praha 1, Na Františku 847, tel. (+420) 222 80 11 11/(+420) 222 80 12 11, info@nfnfp.cz, www.nfnfp.cz. English is spoken.

Nemocnice Na Homolce Praha 5, Roentgenova 2, tel. (+420) 257 27 11 11, fax (+420) 257 21 06 89, hospital@homolka.cz, www.homolka.cz. Bus N°167 and 184. ▶ ☎

Thomayerova nemocnice Praha 4, Vídeňská 800, tel. (+420) 261 08 11 11/(+420) 261 08 31 80, info@ftn.cz, www.ftn.cz. Bus N°106, 113, 114 & 117.

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Club K5 Relax J-5, Praha 2, Korunní 5, Nám. Míru, tel. (+420) 224 25 05 05, www.k5relax.cz.

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From friendly doormen to the hands-on management who will answer all of your questions in as many languages as you can imagine, to the lovely girls who will look after your every wish, this place has it all. A computerised payment system ensures that you will not be ripped off. We cannot recommend K5 more. ▶ Open 16:00 - 04:00. ☎

Prague is as famous for its sex clubs as it is for its beer. Stag nights take advantage of the price and availability of both, and on the whole these clubs are well organised and clean. Safe sex is practiced, and bouncers and/or managers will explain the rules and methods of each place on arrival. It is cheaper to partake over here, but that does not mean you won't pay for the privilege of watching a live sex or lesbian show. Generally, you'll have to pay an entrance fee (around 500Kč) to sit at the bar; this fee is waived if you are there to pay for other services immediately. Many of the central clubs pay men and women to entice you off the street and into their nearby establishments, but if you're heading somewhere by taxi, make sure you're taken to the one you want to go to rather than the one the taxi driver gets commission from. Check prices of services and drinks, and enjoy...

Carioca E-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 1, Mústek, tel. (+420) 296 32 53 14. A large open room with a central stage hosts girls galore doing the can-can and go-go, plus strip and lesbian shows. The place resembles a wedding reception complete with faux Louis XIV furniture, but you lads aren't here for the décor, now are you? ▶ Open 21:00 - 04:00. ☎


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Club 161 K-2, Praha 8, Sokolovská 161, M Křižíkova, tel. (+420) 284 81 02 62, 161@nightclub161.cz, www.club161.cz. A small residential house hosts from two (in the day) to 12 lovely girls for your pleasure. Downstairs is a bar and pole for strip and lesbian shows, while upstairs you can take your pick of four rooms and/or a Jacuzzi. An S&M room has toys, PVC everything and whips if that's your bag, baby. Free entrance and decent bar prices. ▶ Open 12:00 - 06:00, Sat, Sun 18:00 - 06:00. [CC] [P]

Darling Cabaret I-5, Praha 1, Ve Smečkách 32a, M Muzeum, tel. (+420) 732 25 05 55, info@kabaret.cz, www.kabaret.cz. One of the biggest and most popular of the adult clubs in town but it's not cheap as it caters for the comparatively rich tourists. Head over to Václavské nám. and just try to miss it... you've probably seen and been photographed next to their limo too. Watch cabaret, lesbian shows, Thai Fire shows and table dancing courtesy of 150-200 girls a night. ▶ Open 12:00 - 05:00, Wed 20:00 - 05:00.

Escade I-7, Praha 4, Křesomyslova 5, M Vyšehrad, tel. (+420) 241 40 98 88, escadecub@seznam.cz, www.escade.cz. Tucked down in Nusle is Escade, home to thirty girls every night for your viewing (and more) pleasure. Get comfortable in the sofa-laden bar before taking your pick of one of their spacious rooms, sauna or whirlpool. The usual strip and erotic shows are crowd pleasers, and Escade also offers soft S&M, services for couple, special private arrangements and an escort service. Just in case you go overboard, there's an ATM. ▶ Open 24 hrs. [CC] [P]

Extasy Cabaret Praha 3, Chlumova 13, tel. (+420) 222 78 00 48/(+420) 777 206 006, info@extasy.cz, www.extasy.cz. Extasy offers a courtesy car from anywhere in Prague and a free welcome drink for punters. This is a well-known place for quality girls and imaginative shows, for example, Cheryl and her drill - use that imagination... yup, that's right. Anyway, it's all air conditioned, they have a bar with dance, erotic and lesbian shows, massage, plus various rooms and even a waterbed. Extasy also hosts film and photo shoots. ▶ Open 20:00 - 06:00. [CC]

Follow Me Praha 7, Na Šachtě 5, tel. (+420) 608 84 41 43, followme@email.cz, www.followme.cz. Follow me to a place where you can get away from it all and enjoy the delights of erotic girls there just to please you. And believe us, they will. Drinks, free transport, low prices but above all, hot chicks. Near the Výstaviště grounds in Holešovice. ▶ Open 12:00 - 06:00.

Goldfinger's E-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 5, M Mústek, tel. (+420) 608 663 066, info@goldfingers.cz, www.goldfingers.cz. No sex please, we're British. This is not the call of either James Bond or the stag-partier, but that is the ethic at Goldfinger's, the classiest strip joint in town. It's not cheap but then again, the girls aren't either. ▶ Open 21:00 - 04:00. [CC] [P] [F] [A]

Hot Pepper's F-4, Praha 1, Václavské nám. 21, M Muzeum, tel. (+420) 724 13 40 11, hotpeppers@email.cz, www.hotpeppers.cz. Hot Pepper's - Gate to Hell is an original, exclusive club. Next door to the disco Duplex, it's the ideal combination of cabaret dancers and champagne consumption; all with a professional presentation. The V.I.P. Champagne Lounge, with its choice of many exquisite brands of bubbly, can't be found anywhere



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else. The all-night programme includes exotic and cancan dancers; a lesbian show, stag show and even private rooms. Benefits include free entry, every second beer free, discount vouchers for 5 and 10 beers, and many more attractive offers. Plus, the party can go on as long as you wish - there's no closing time at Hot Pepper's. Excepts all credit cards, including American Express. ▶ Open 20:00 - 6:00. [CC] [P] [A]

Laura Club Praha 3, Jeseniova 166, tel. (+420) 271 77 46 90, info.lauraclub@email.cz, www.lauraclub.ic.cz. Great little club in Žižkov where you can enjoy lovely Czech girls strip for you three nights a week before escorting one to a private room to help you drink your sparkling wine. When there is no strip action there are still always plenty of girls ready to entertain you in as many ways as you can imagine. ▶ Open 12:00 - 05:00. [CC]

Lotos Club Praha 4, Kupeckého 832, M Háje, tel. (+420) 272 91 68 25, lotos@lotos.cz, www.lotos.cz. Newly renovated and still specialising in the discreet luxury niche. Lotos is modelled on a gentleman's club although with the added bonus of young girls, pool and S&M room for starters. Choose from over 20 quality girls a night. Free entrance voucher on the website. ▶ Open 24hrs. [CC]

Neon Club Balbinová 21, M Muzeum, tel. (+420) 222 25 01 05/(+420) 733 12 10 22, info@neonclub.cz, www.neonclub.cz. The Neon Club offers three exotic floors of strippers, lap dancers and escort services. The first floor will amuse with its selection of sex toys; while the second has a reasonably priced cocktail bar and dancing girls. Ascend to the third and you can catch a game in their sports bar. ▶ Open 12:00 - 5:00.

Sexy Sauna Club Praha 1, Ve Smečkách 19, M Muzeum, tel. +420 775 37 76 16, info@saunaclub.cz, www.saunaclub.cz. The Sexy Sauna Club will heat up you night with a variety of massages and lots of girls. An all-inclusive unlimited stay fee offers food, soft drinks, Finnish sauna, XXXL whirlpool and more. ▶ Open 12:00 - 05:00, Fri, Sat 12:00 - 06:00. 2000 CZK, plus extras.

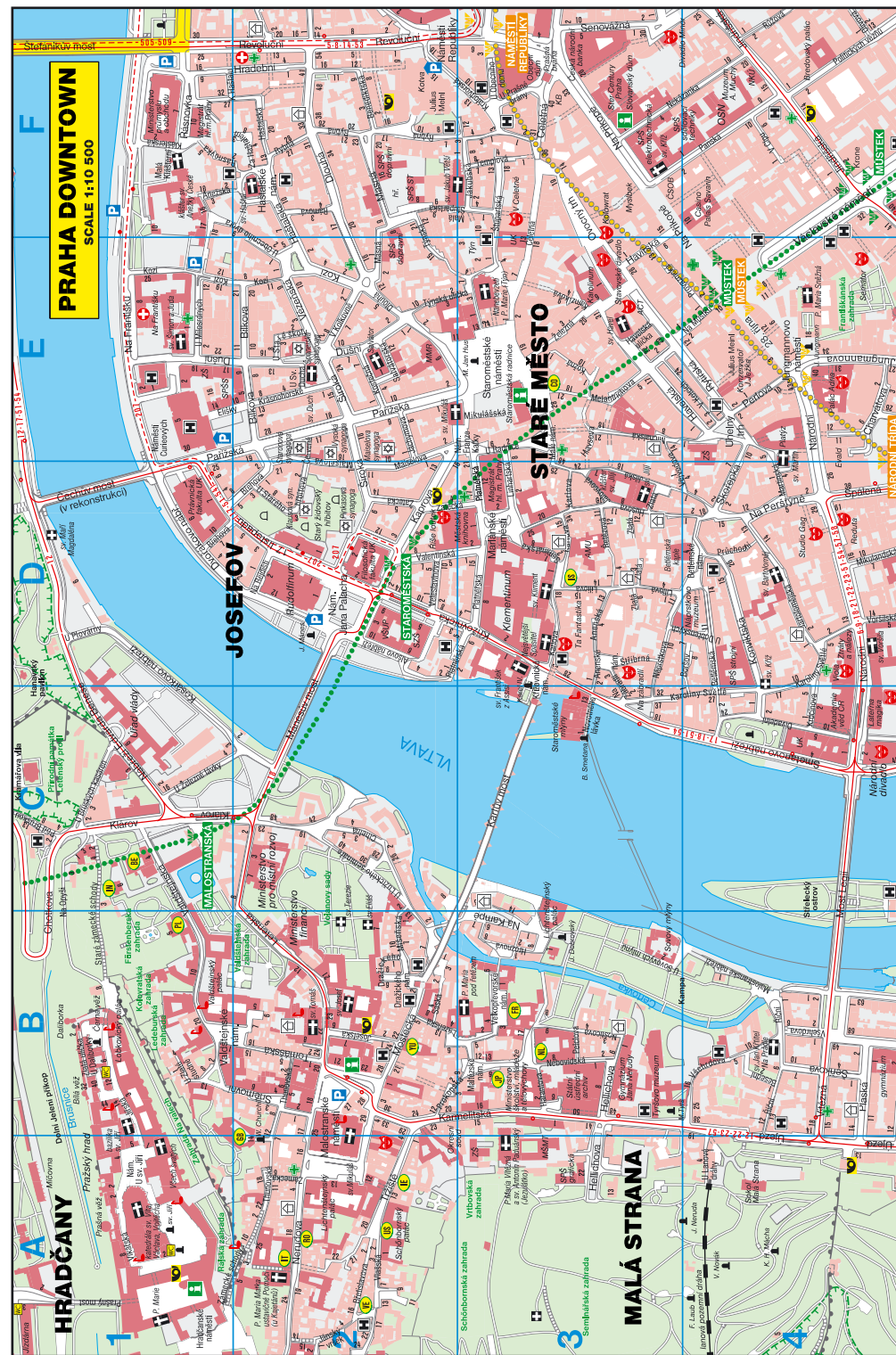
SweetParadise Praha 3, Chelčického 5, tel. (+420) 737 66 82 33/(+420) 222 21 28 97, info@sweetparadise.cz, www.sweetparadise.cz. Boasting 12-20 (of 50) girls available per night, this is a more local affair offering beer and girls, the most famous of Czech commodities. All sorts available from shows at the tiki bar, basic theme rooms, 'special' services and long term escorts. Print the discount voucher from the website. Foreign currency accepted. ▶ Open 12:00 - 05:00. [CC]

Tantra Club Praha 6, Dejvicka 1, M Dejvicka, tel. +420 777 58 74 88, tantraclub@hotmail.cz, www.tantra-club.cz. Swinger club with unique Tantric concepts is inviting couples and singles (single men and women accepted) to learn, experience and enjoy special Tantric Massages, Therapy of Touch, exclusive Erotic performances. Each program is at least 4 hours long and includes various tantric techniques, learning Dao and ancient Egyptian massage, introductions and switching partners, as well as erotic competitions and prizes. Sauna, Whirlpool, Bar, Showers, Karaoke, Private Rooms available.

Velvet Praha 4, Ve Svahu 13, M Vyšehrad, tel. (+420) 241 43 26 74, info@velvet.cz, www.velvet.cz. The self-proclaimed 'flagship of erotic' calls for all hands on deck a short taxi ride south of the centre. Amenities include bubble baths, video, free minibar and escort services. Call ahead and a taxi will pick you up free of charge. ▶ Open 24hrs. [CC]

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Praha 3

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3

ŽIŽKOV

Praha 4

ŽIŽKOV

4

VINOHRADY

Praha 5

VINOHRADY

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