

Czech Republic





The official tourist presentation of the Czech Republic
www.czechtourism.com



An air view of the historical town of Telč



A detail of the Holy Trinity Column in Olomouc

Welcome...

Ancient towns reflecting the rich history of Central Europe in the past millennium, stone castles and ruins on rocks, splendid chateaux surrounded by fancy parks, noble ecclesiastical monuments, folk architecture and traditions, museums, galleries, music events, cultural festivals, cosmopolitan Prague, health-conscious spa towns and peace and tranquility in the country. Included in active vacations there are numerous sporting activities, adrenalin to order, many shopping opportunities with the latest European trends, culinary adventures, interesting national cuisine and famous Czech beer. This is the Czech Republic - original scenes for your travelling experience.



Sunset at Charles Bridge



Votive picture of Charles IV

Prague

It is said to be one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The hundred-spired pearl, the magic mother of towns. Its rare, well-maintained and mutually interlocked architecture of all styles depicts eleven centuries of medieval history. Just like the splendid stone bridge connects both banks of the river Vltava, Prague is the place where the Czechs, Germans and Jews had lived ever before; it is an intersection of Europe where tradesmen, politicians, scholars and

Popular Tours

Council House – Old-Town Square – Jewish Ghetto

Charles Bridge – Nerudova Street – Prague Castle

Lesser-Town Square – Infant Jesus of Prague – by cableway to Petřín

Pohořelec – Loreta – Prague Castle – Nerudova Street – Lesser-Town Square

Museum – Wenceslas Square – Můstek – National Theater

Vyšehrad – Výtoň (embankment) – National Theater

www.prague-info.cz

Rich History



St. Vitus Cathedral



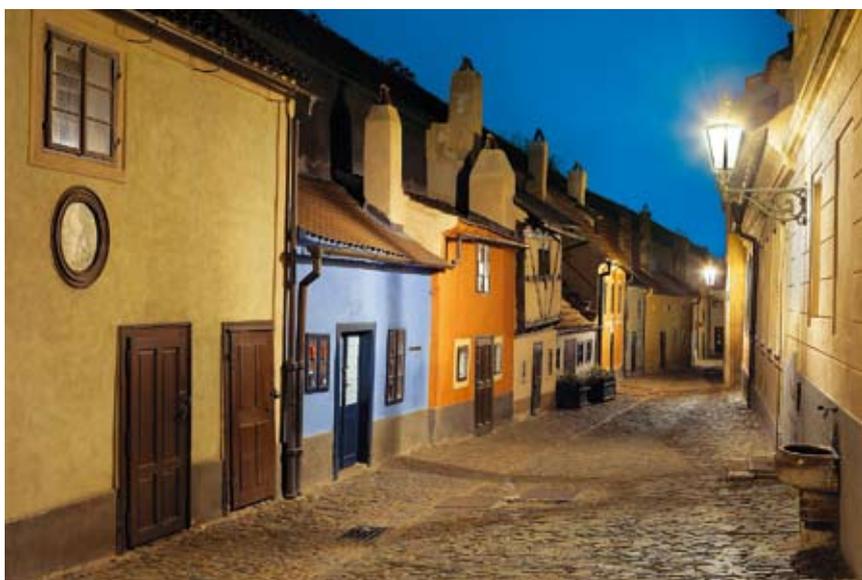
Chapel of St. Wenceslas, the patron of Czech lands

artists from all over the world have met. The special inspiring atmosphere of Prague has fascinated foreigners from the Romanic times to date. The historical quarters have still maintained their magic: the unique Old Town with a large square where a medieval astronomical clock chimes every hour, with a university, multiple spires and remnants of a large Jewish ghetto; the Lesser Town on the hills below Prague Castle - a braid of zigzag lanes and staircases, a quarter full of ecclesiastical monuments and gigantic aristocratic palaces and refined gardens; Hradčany - a picturesque quarter next to the impressive seat of the Czech rulers.



Charles Bridge – for luck

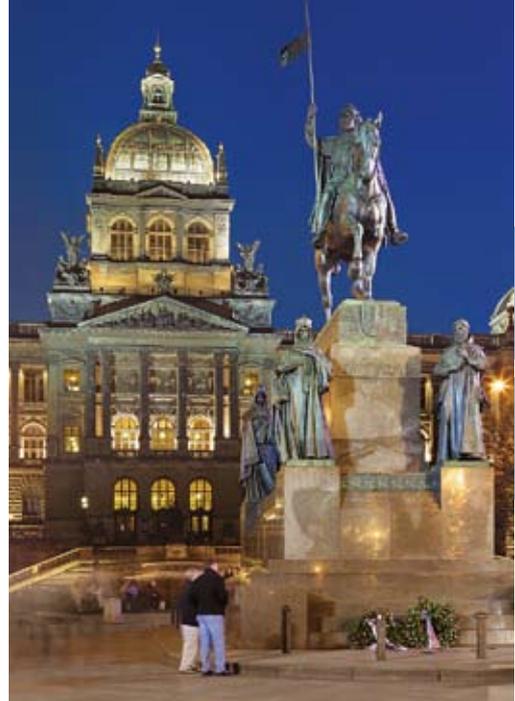
Old-Town Square



Golden Lane at Prague Castle



Wallenstein Garden



The building of Museum and the statue of St. Wenceslas

Prague is abundant not only in historical monuments, museums, collections of art, bookstores, theaters, opera, musicals, cinemas or music clubs, but also offers boulevards with luxury shops selling fashion, glass, jewelry and antiques with excellent restaurants, stylish cafes, traditional beerhouses and folk pubs. Prague is a modern European metropolis with all services and opportunities for entertainment, business and education. When you become tired of all that, take a rest in one of the numerous parks, participate in sports or go for a trip into the countryside.



Ceremonious hall at the Jewish Cemetery

Where to go for a trip from Prague

Kutná Hora – a historical town, one of the richest towns in the Middle Ages [www.kutnahora.cz]

Karlštejn – an important medieval castle [www.hradkarlstejn.cz]

Křivoklát – a castle hidden deep in the forest [www.krivoklat.cz]

Konopiště – a chateau with valuable collections [www.zamek-konopiste.cz]

Nelahozeves – a Renaissance chateau with unique interiors [www.lobkowicevents.cz]



Prague bridges

Fountain at Malé Square



Vrtbovská Garden



A square in České Budějovice

Historical Towns

Not only Czech rulers, but also national and foreign aristocracy and, later, the ever-more powerful bourgeoisie boasted their power and wealth. Forty Czech towns have maintained their historical downtowns intact; now, they are protected as conservation areas. But you will surely find interesting and well maintained monuments and unique architectural pearls in any large or small town.

The most attractive towns include Český Krumlov, a unique Gothic-Renaissance town with narrow medieval lanes and a large castle over the river (the second



Decoration of the Masquerade Hall in Český Krumlov

Rich History



Gala fireworks in Český Krumlov



St. Catherine Rotunda in Znojmo

largest castle after Prague Castle); Kutná Hora, a royal town that became rich in the Middle Ages from silver-mining; unique pearls of Renaissance, the towns of Telč and Slavonice; the archiepiscopal towns of Olomouc and Kroměříž; the winery-towns of Znojmo or Mikulov; and the center of South Moravia – Brno.



A detail of a burgess-house façade in Slavonice

UNESCO World Heritage

Historic Center of Prague

Historic Center of Český Krumlov

Historic Center of Telč

Pilgrimage Church of St. John of Nepomuk at Zelená Hora near Žďár nad Sázavou

Historical Town Center of Kutná Hora with the Church of St Barbara and the Cathedral of Our Lady at Sedlec

Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape

Holašovice Historical Village Reservation

Castle and Gardens at Kroměříž

Litomyšl Castle

Holy Trinity Column in Olomouc

Tugendhat Villa in Brno

Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč

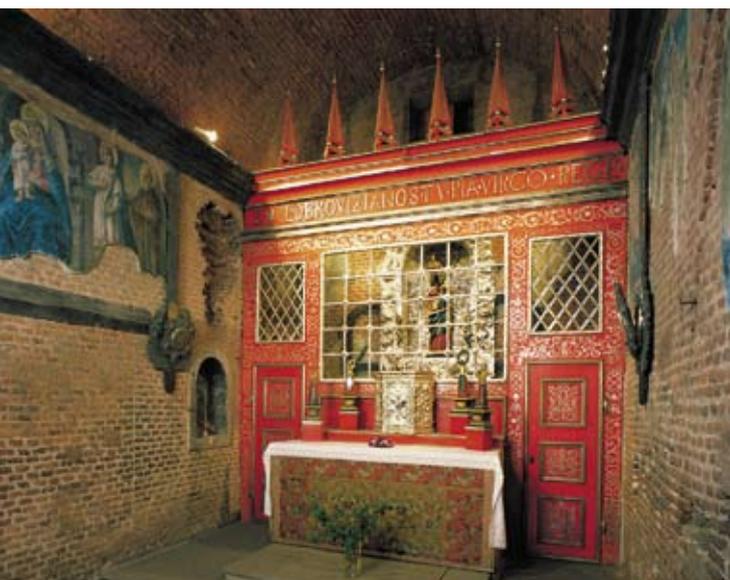
www.unesco-czech.cz



A square in Telč →



Prague Loreta



The Shrine of the Holy House in Prague Loreta

Religious Monuments

The monastery at Vyšší Brod with a rare Baroque library; the Church of St Virgin Barbara – the patron of miners at Kutná Hora; the pilgrimage area at Zelená Hora near the town of Žďár nad Sázavou; the archbishop's summer manor house at Kroměříž – to mention just a few samples of architectural mastership located all round the country; the Catholic clergy and religious orders have been the richest investors in Bohemia since the Middle Ages. Monumental cathedrals as well as simple countryside churches, magnificent monasteries as well as humble chapels, pilgrimage sites, splendid residences with beautiful collections as well as a simple cross between two lime-trees in the midst of fields. Twelve centuries during which the political and social developments of the Czech lands have been accompanied by Christianity left their footmarks in the marvelous Czech landscape, in every town and village.



Madonna of Jihlava (14th century)

Ecclesiastical Monuments Worth Seeing

St Vitus Cathedral at Prague Castle – the coronation and burial cathedral of Czech kings [www.hrad.cz]

Velehrad – the memorial site where the missionaries of Christianity Saints Cyril and Methodius lived

Svatá Hora (Holy Hill) near the town of Přebíram – the most famous Marian pilgrimage site [www.svata-hora.cz]

Infant Jesus of Prague – the Baroque amorous figure in the Church of Infant Jesus of Prague [www.pragjesu.cz]

St Hostýn – the pilgrimage hill with a church [www.hostyn.cz]

Charnel house at Sedlec – the churchyard chapel decorated with human bones [www.sedlec.info]

Church of St. John of Nepomuk at Žďár n.S. [www.zamekzdar.cz]



Monastery in Vyšší Brod



The interior of a church in Olomouc

St. Barbara Church in Kutná Hora





Český Šternberk

Castles and Chateaux

Surprisingly numerous castles, chateaux, citadels and their ruins, almost two thousand of them, form an inherent part of the Czech landscape. About 200 of them are open to the public. Their owners, either the state or private persons - mostly the descendants of important aristocratic families - organise sightseeing tours with guides. Some of them are excellent samples of stylistically pure architecture - such as the Gothic castles of Bezděz, Pernštejn, Loket, Kost, or the Renaissance

Encounter of knights



Rich History



Bouzov Castle



Hluboká Chateau

arcade chateaux at Litomyšl, Velké Losiny, Telč, Jindřichův Hradec. Other, reconstructed and enlarged during their history to ever-growing magnificence and beauty – such as Český Krumlov, Vranov, Lednice, Valtice, Bouzov, are an exhibition of the development of architectural styles and an illustrative textbook of the history of the entire Central Europe. Sightseeing tours include beautifully furnished interiors with unique collections and, frequently, beautiful gardens, parks and game-preserves. Historical festivities, night tours, theater performances or concerts are organized in many places.



The interior of a hall in Kroměříž Chateau

Červená Lhota Chateau





Karlovy Vary

Golf is a popular form of an active rest



The statue of František – Františkovy Lázně



Spa Resorts

The natural curing springs, original spa architecture, beautiful landscape scenery and easy climate, sports activities, interesting social events - those are the traditional characteristics of Czech spa resorts, a part of the European cultural heritage. The quality of spa procedures proven by time and top-class care for patients are multiplied today with the offer of modern wellness and SPA methods for your relaxation and recovery of your strength, health and beauty. The most famous of thirty-five traditional spas is the triangle in West Bohemia: Karlovy Vary – Mariánské Lázně – Františkovy Lázně. Hot thermal springs were popular also in the past centuries among the most varied cosmopolitan clients - during the centuries,

What else is offered at the spa

Chopin Festival at Mariánské Lázně
[\[www.chopinfestival.cz\]](http://www.chopinfestival.cz)

Karlovy Vary International Film Festival
[\[www.iffkv.cz\]](http://www.iffkv.cz)

Music Festival Janáček and Luhačovice
[\[www.janacek.cz/festival-luhacovice\]](http://www.janacek.cz/festival-luhacovice)

Spa and Wellness



Children at a fountain



Spa procedure

Anifest – International Festival of Animated Film in Třeboň
[www.anifest.cz]

Mitte Europa – Summer Cultural Festival in the Czech-German border region (Teplice)
[www.festival-mitte-europa.com]

the spas were visited by famous personalities, such as Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Gogol, Goethe, Kafka, Freud, Edison, Schopenhauer, Marx and Casanova. The Czech patriots preferred the Moravian spa of Luhačovice or the spa of Jeseník with the folk "water doctor" Vincenz Priessnitz, whose simple and vigorous methods, such as his famous anti-fever pack, are still very effective.

Singing Fountain in Mariánské Lázně





Pravčická Gate



Biking or riding a horse

Natural Wealth

You can drive through the Czech Republic in one day, but you can spend all your life walking through it. The Club of Czech Tourists has been improving for more than one hundred years the dense network of marked footpaths and ski-paths, totaling up to 40,000 kilometers and supplemented with detailed maps. The Czechs love cycling and cross-country skiing in winter - marked routes will not disappoint you in any season. They will provide you with erudite information about natural beauties and historical sights in the landscape and they will take you to all places including the most valuable areas - national parks, unique eco-systems and landscape preserves.

Active Vacation



Waterfall in Adršpašské Skály



Pustevny in the Beskydy Mountains

National Parks

Krkonoše – unique nature of the north and the spring of the river Labe [www.krkonose.eu]

České Švýcarsko (Czech Switzerland) – romantic landscape in the border region [www.ceskesvycarsko.cz]

Podyjí – a wild river valley [www.nppodyji.cz]

Šumava – the green roof of Europe [www.npsumava.cz]



Coach joyride

The Šumava landscape





Krkonoše



Macocha Abyss

Satellite photos show in the center of Europe a striking basin surrounded with a circle of mountains - the Czech Republic. Mountains wreathe most borders; the landscape inside is beautifully varied and diversified. Slightly undulating hills between fruitful lowlands along life-giving rivers, deep forests as well as densely populated areas. Rock towns

Walking to Vysoké Kolo





Lipenské Lake

are real natural jewels. Rock-climbers know them best and give them familiar names. You can see there more than thousand rock towers. Sun, frost, wind and water had formed during thousands of years the unique European UNESCO geo-park Bohemian Paradise. This romantic landscape combines diversity of natural beauties and abundant architectural monuments - castles, chateaux and folk architecture. The system of ponds in the cultivated landscape of South Bohemia is very interesting, too. Hundreds of ponds were created mostly in the Renaissance era as artificial water reservoirs designed originally for breeding of famous Bohemian fish, which was exported at that time to royalty all around Europe.

Natural sights:

Sněžka – the highest Czech mountain (1,602 meters above sea-level) in the mountains of Krkonoše

Spring at Karlovy Vary – geyser of hot mineral water with temperature 72°C

Rožmberk Pond – the largest pond

Pravčická Gate in Czech Switzerland – the largest rock bridge in Europe

Černé Lake in the mountains of Šumava – the largest and deepest Czech lake

Vltava – the longest Czech river

Lipno – the largest water area

Macocha abyss in Moravian Karst – the largest abyss in Central Europe

Pančavský waterfall in the mountains of Krkonoše – the largest Czech waterfall

Active Vacation



A view of the landscape from Trosky Castle



Orlické Mountains



Skiers in Krkonoše





Watermen on the River Vltava in Vyšší Brod

Joy from Exercise

Are you looking for ideas for your next vacation? Would you like to spend it actively, improve your condition, find beauties not known before? The diversified nature offers trips for walkers and bikers, water enthusiasts and fans of flying; many opportunities for spending leisure time actively. In modern sports centers you can try several disciplines at once - tennis, table-tennis, ball games, squash, mini-golf and many others. Many golf courses located in beautiful landscapes, as well as water reservoirs and rivers wait for you. You can enrich your stay in the countryside farms with horse-riding, fishing or mushrooming. Daring fans of adrenalin sports, such as bungee jumping or tandem jumps will find their opportunities, too. And did you know that Czech mountains were the cradle of skiing in Central Europe? Do not hesitate to test it; snowy hills and ski centers offering all services wait for winter-sports lovers. Let sports-loving visitors to our country have fun and pleasant memories in any season. Do you prefer to watch sports as a spectator or do you prefer to contest yourself? Here are a couple of tips:

← *Rock-climbers in Adršpašské Skály*

Jizerská 50 – Mass Cross-Country Skiing
[www.jiz50.cz]

Golden Track Shoe – Super Grand Prix Athletic Meeting
[www.zlatatretra.cz]

Prague Marathon [www.pim.cz]

Grand Prix of the Czech Republic in Brno
– Championship of road motorcycles
[www.automotodrombrno.cz]

Grand Pardubice Steeplechase – the most difficult steeplechase in continental Europe
[www.pardubice-racecourse.cz]

Active Vacation



Biking in the mountains



Krkonoše – Sněžné Jámy



International Music Festival in Český Krumlov



The Interior of National Museum

Classical and Modern Arts

Music by Antonín Dvořák and Leoš Janáček is probably best known abroad. The Czech composer Antonín Dvořák was celebrated in the second half of the 19th century as one of the greatest artists of that time. His famous symphony 'From the New World' flew to the moon in the past century along with the first US astronauts and it brought to the interstellar space a message of the excellent tradition of Czech music. You cannot miss it during your visit to the Czech Republic - you will be offered a rich mixture of concerts and festivals of all genres, which are organized throughout the year and throughout the country; often in the marvelous environment of historical monuments. The fans of visual and utility arts will find interesting collections, both short-term and permanent exhibitions. In addition to the



Stavovské Theatre

honorable institutions, such as the Prague Castle Picture Gallery, National Gallery or National Museum, the Czech inhabitants, including those in small towns and villages, can boast with hundreds of museums and monuments reminding of famous personalities.



National Gallery – Rosary Ceremony

A Symphony for the Senses



From a concert in Český Krumlov

Our Tips

Prague Spring – International Music Festival
[www.festival.cz]

Moravian Autumn – International Music Festival
[www.mhf-brno.cz]

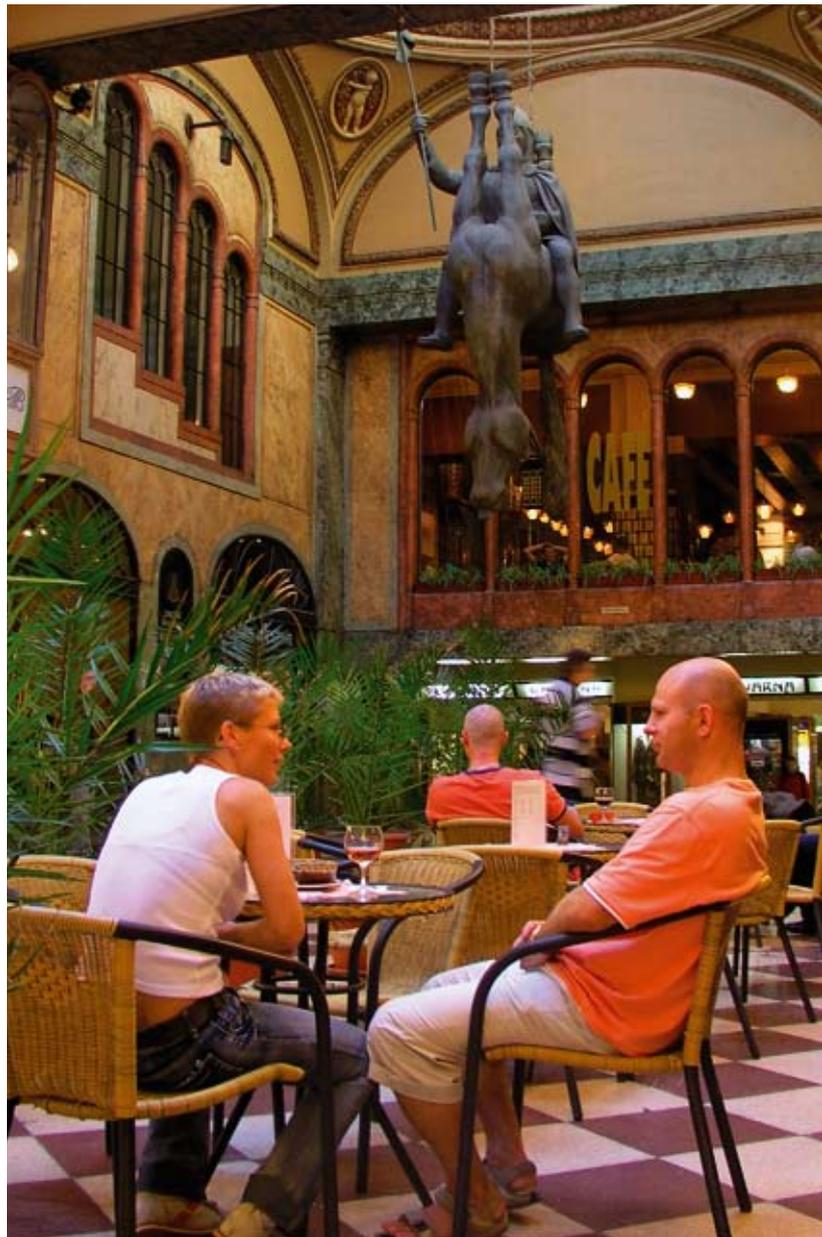
Smetana's Litomyšl – International Opera Festival in the birthplace of B. Smetana
[www.smetanovitomysl.cz]

International Music Festival at Český Krumlov
[www.festivalkrumlov.cz]

International Folklore Festival at Strážnice
[www.nulk.cz]

Colours of Ostrava – Multigenre Music Festival
[www.colours.cz]

Taking a rest in Lucerna Arcade in Prague →





Banquet



Beef in tomato sauce and dumplings

Eat and Drink

The Czech and Moravian traditional cuisine is solid, rich and tasty. You can find it on menu-cards in a broad network of restaurants and pubs, wine-rooms and beerhouses. People now prefer light meals with plenty of fresh vegetables, but the typical national meal is roast pork and sweet-and-sour cabbage with dumplings (typical Czech meal "knedlík"). Roast duck, game meals and sweet dumplings filled with fruit are very popular, too. Various types of sauces form part of Czech cuisine. Roast sirloin in cream sauce and dumplings is the most popular.

Try it!

Prague Food Festival – unique culinary show
[\[www.praguefoodfestival.com\]](http://www.praguefoodfestival.com)

Pilsner Fest – Beer Fest in Plzeň [\[www.prazdroj.cz\]](http://www.prazdroj.cz)

Pálava Vintage – wine holidays at Mikulov in South Moravia
[\[www.mikulov.cz\]](http://www.mikulov.cz)

Slovácko Festival of Wine and Open Monuments – a representative ethnographic festival of towns and villages from the region of Slovácko at Uherské Hradiště
[\[www.slovacko.cz\]](http://www.slovacko.cz)

Znojmo Historical Vintage – a festival of wine in costumes
[\[www.znojmo.eu\]](http://www.znojmo.eu)

A Symphony for the Senses



Beer is the most popular Czech drink

Czech beer is a real national treasure. Beer is brewed according to ancient recipes and from excellent domestic raw materials in tens of breweries. No wonder the Czechs are the most apt consumers of beer in the world. Czech and Moravian wines, especially white wines, are very good, too. South Moravia is a famous winery region - various winery programs make visitors familiar with wine, wine cellars, as well as cultural monuments, the last living folk traditions and hospitality of Moravian people.



Good wine is a must on the set table



Radniční Street in Český Krumlov



The town of Písek in South Bohemia with the oldest bridge in Bohemia



This symbol denotes official certified accommodation facilities



This symbol denotes official tourist information centres

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CZECH REPUBLIC ON THE WEB

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www.kr-karlovarsky.cz	The Karlovy Vary Region
www.kr-ustecky.cz	The Ústí Region
www.liberecky-kraj.cz	North Bohemia
www.ceskesvycarsko.cz	Bohemian Switzerland
www.krkonose.eu	The Krkonoše Mountains
www.cesky-raj.info	Bohemian Paradise
www.vychodni-cechy.info	East Bohemia
www.region-vysocina.cz	The Vysočina Region
www.jizni-morava.cz	South Moravia
www.ok-tourism.cz	Central Moravia
www.vychodni-morava.cz	Eastern Moravia
www.tourisms.cz	North Moravia and Silesia
www.unesco-czech.cz	UNESCO World Heritage in the Czech Republic
www.czech-mountains.com	Information about mountains and other natural areas
www.holidayinfo.cz	

TRANSPORT

www.prg.aero	Prague Airport
www.idos.cz	Train and Bus Timetables
www.dpp.cz	Prague Transport Information

ACCOMMODATION

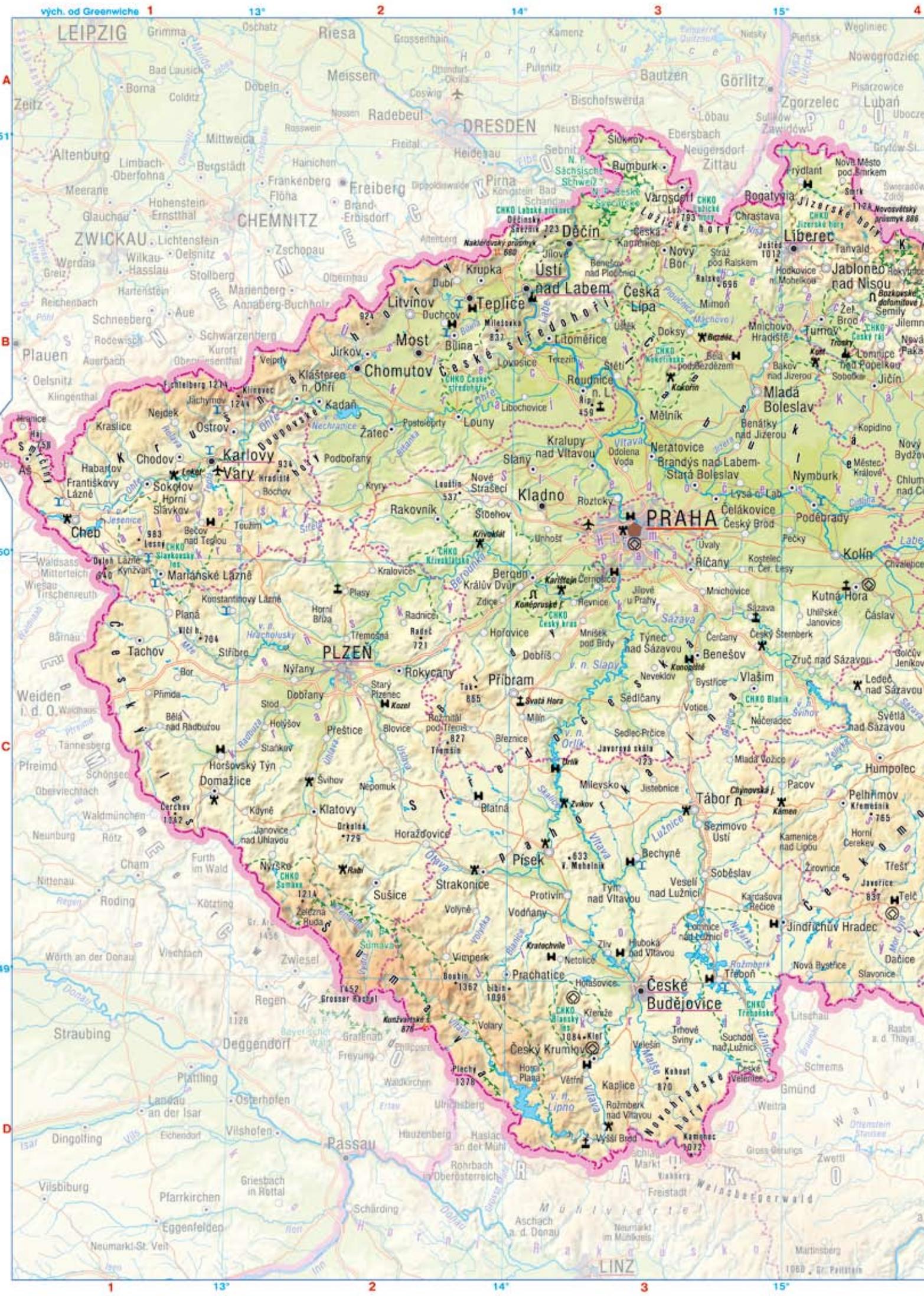
www.travelguide.cz	Hotels, boarding houses, apartments, camps. . .
www.camp.cz	Camps in the Czech Republic
www.eceat.cz	European Center for Eco-Agro Tourism, Holiday in the Countryside
www.gurman.cz	Restaurant Guides

BOOKING OF TICKETS FOR CULTURAL AND SPORTS EVENTS

www.bohemiaticket.cz	Tickets and programs – theatres, musicals, concerts,
www.ticketpro.cz	sports matches, etc.
www.ticket-art.cz	
www.ticketstream.cz	
www.accka.cz	The Association of Tour Operators and Travel Agents of the Czech Republic
www.ackcr.cz	Association of Czech Travel Agents
www.ahrcr.cz	The Czech Association of Hotels and Restaurants



Czech Republic
Member of the European Union
Area: 78,864 km²
Number of inhabitants: 10.4 mills.
Capital: Prague (1.2 mill. inhabitants)
Currency: Czech Crown (Kč, CZK) – For the current rate of exchange go to: www.xe.com
Time zone: Central European Time (GMT +1); Summer Time from April to October (GMT +2)
Climate: Mild climate; a mixture of ocean and continental climates; four alternating seasons



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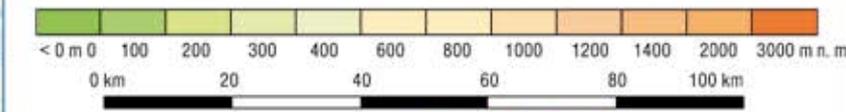
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