

# Information for Visitors







Czech Republic

***Welcome  
to the Czech Republic!***

*We have selected some useful information and important contact numbers for you. We wish you a pleasant stay and wonderful experiences in our country.*

***[www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)***

# INFORMATION



## CZECH REPUBLIC

member of the European Union since 2004

## AREA

78,864 square kilometres (30,449 sq. miles)

## NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Germany, Poland, Austria and Slovakia

## POPULATION

10,300,000

## CAPITAL

Prague (population: 1,200,000)

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Czech



# INFORMATION



## TIME ZONE

Central European Time (GMT + 1), from April to October – summer time (GMT + 2)

## CLIMATE

Temperate, four seasons, a mix of ocean and inland climate;

The average daily temperature: January  $-2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $28.4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), July  $+20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $68\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ )

[www.holidayinfo.cz](http://www.holidayinfo.cz), [www.meteopress.cz](http://www.meteopress.cz)

## VOLTAGE

230 V, European standard sockets

## CURRENCY

Czech crown – CZK, 1 CZK = 100 hellers

Exchange rates: [www.cnb.cz](http://www.cnb.cz), [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)



# INFORMATION

## STATE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

January 1, Easter Monday, May 1, May 8, July 5, July 6, September 28, October 28, November 17, December 24, December 25, December 26

## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, VISA

EU citizens must have a valid travel document to travel to the Czech Republic (passport or identity card). Citizens of other countries: for entry requirements, visit [www.mzv.cz](http://www.mzv.cz)

# INFORMATION



**Banks** are open on workdays usually from 9 am to 5 pm; opening hours are usually shorter on Friday. **Exchange offices** are open daily, mostly until 6 pm.

***NOTE: Tourists mostly use the “valuty nákup – we buy” exchange rate. The billboards “0% commission” usually refer to the “valuty prodej – we sell” exchange rate. Prior to exchanging money, please check the final amount of money with the clerk at the counter. We strongly caution against changing money in the street!***

There is a dense network of automated teller machines (ATMs) throughout Prague and the Czech Republic.

Major credit cards are accepted in many shops, restaurants and hotels.





# TAX FREE



Tourists from countries outside the EU who make a single purchase exceeding CZK 2,500 and take the goods over the state border within 60 days of the purchase date can apply for a refund of Value Added Tax (VAT). You must fill out a form obtainable from the customs or fiscal authorities, or directly in selected shops. On taking the goods outside the borders of the EU, you must have the document stamped by the respective border customs office (at the same time you must produce proof of purchase and the goods themselves). VAT refunds can be obtained directly from the seller (personally or through an authorized representative) or through mediating companies (e.g., at Prague's Ruzyně Airport).

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency call

**112**

Police

**158**

Municipal police

**156**

Ambulance

**155**

Fire brigade

**150**



# INFORMATION



## INFORMATION ABOUT THE CZECH REPUBLIC

CzechTourism

Prague 2, Vinohradská 46

Tel.: +420 221 580 611

E-mail: [info@czechtourism.cz](mailto:info@czechtourism.cz)

[www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)

## INFORMATION ABOUT PRAGUE

Prague Information Service

E-mail: [tourinfo@pis.cz](mailto:tourinfo@pis.cz)

[www.prague-info.cz](http://www.prague-info.cz)

Tickets for cultural events

[www.bohemiaticket.cz](http://www.bohemiaticket.cz),

[www.ticketpro.cz](http://www.ticketpro.cz) and others



# HOW TO TRAVEL



## BY AIR

Most direct and indirect flights to the Czech Republic arrive at Prague's Ruzyně International Airport, located approximately 20 km (12.5 miles) to the north-west of the city centre. Public transit buses (Nos. 100, 119, 179, 225 and 254) run between the airport and central Prague. The Airport Express bus line provides connection between Ruzyně Airport and the Prague-Holešovice Railway Station (for detailed information see [www.dpp.cz](http://www.dpp.cz)).

Transit into the city is also provided by minibuses and taxis which operate round the clock.

**Information about flight departures and arrivals:**

+420 220 113 314

**For more information see:**

[www.czechairlines.com](http://www.czechairlines.com)

[www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero)



# HOW TO TRAVEL

## BY TRAIN

Thanks to the Czech Republic's location in the heart of Europe, the country is intersected by numerous international railway routes on which the EuroCity, InterCity, SuperCity and Pendolino trains operate. Trains in the Czech Republic are mostly operated by the Czech Railways Company, offering numerous domestic connections.

Information about train connections:

+420 840 112 113, [www.idos.cz](http://www.idos.cz)

## BY BUS

Many Czech and foreign operators provide international connections with other European countries. There is a dense network of domestic bus lines, with the majority of places around the country accessible by bus.

Information about bus connections: [www.idos.cz](http://www.idos.cz)







# HOW TO TRAVEL

## BY CAR OR MOTORCYCLE

Czech traffic regulations are almost identical to those in effect in other European countries. In the Czech Republic you must drive on the right and the wearing of seat belts is compulsory. It is also compulsory to keep your headlights on all year. Alcohol consumption prior to and while driving is strictly prohibited.

Speed limits: 50 km/h in built-up areas, 90 km/h on roads and 130 km/h on motorways and high-speed roads. There is a fee for the use of motorways in the form of motorway stickers; these can be purchased for instance at border crossings, gas stations and post offices.

## CAR RENTAL

All major international car rental companies, plus many Czech ones, offer their services in the Czech Republic. A range of different car categories is available.

# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN PRAGUE



The Prague public transport system ([www.dpp.cz](http://www.dpp.cz)) consists of a well-functioning network of bus and tram lines and three Metro lines, and includes a funicular (cable car) which goes up Petřín Hill. Tickets can be obtained at street vending machines, newsstands and tobacconists, as well as some shops, hotels, travel agencies and directly aboard the means of transport (where surcharges apply). We recommend the use of passes valid for one, three, seven and fifteen consecutive days.

**Remember** to validate (stamp) your ticket in special stamping machines immediately upon entering the means of transport or the Metro station. Only properly marked tickets are valid! Inspectors, who must produce their identification badge, are entitled to check your ticket any time.



# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN PRAGUE

**TAXIS** – maximum fares are set for taxis in the area of the capital. Taxi fares consist of a starting rate (CZK 34), a rate per kilometre (CZK 25) and a rate for waiting (CZK 5 /minute). Fares can increase in the course of the year.

Every taxi must be equipped with a roof light with the inscription TAXI, a black-and-white strip on both sides, a license number on both front doors, the name of the firm and a price list. Every taxi driver is obliged to issue a receipt for the fare paid, which must be printed by the meter. It is safe to book a taxi by telephone in advance.

Keep an eye on your luggage on public transport, in shops, city centres and places with large crowds of people in order to prevent theft.

# ACCOMMODATION/DINING

Visitors can choose from a range of hotels of all categories, guesthouses, campsites, holiday camps, hostels and private accommodations. Lodging information is available from travel agencies and a network of information centres throughout the country or at [www.travelguide.cz](http://www.travelguide.cz), [www.camp.cz](http://www.camp.cz), [www.eceat.cz](http://www.eceat.cz) (countryside accommodations), [www.prague-info.cz](http://www.prague-info.cz) (Prague only) and [www.rekus-rekan.cz](http://www.rekus-rekan.cz).

We suggest checking in advance which services and taxes are included in the room rate.

The Czech Republic boasts numerous small Czech pubs, luxurious restaurants, modern bars, cafés and tearooms, all of which offer Czech specialities as well as international cuisines.

**For more information, visit**

[www.squaremeal.cz](http://www.squaremeal.cz), [www.czrb.cz](http://www.czrb.cz)

If you are satisfied with the meal and service, tipping 5-10% of your bill total is customary.



# TELEPHONE/INTERNET



## TELEPHONE

To call the Czech Republic, dial +420 followed by a nine-digit number. To call from the Czech Republic, dial 00 + country code + area code + local number. Telephone cards are available at post offices and newsagents.

The Czech Republic has excellent mobile coverage. Mobile telephones can be rented for the duration of your stay.

## INTERNET

The use of the Internet and electronic mail is widespread and the number of Internet cafés is growing, especially in larger towns.



This sign denotes  
official tourist centres



This sign denotes official certified  
accommodation facilities

[www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)

The official tourist presentation of the Czech Republic

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