
linguist[ic]s

PRAGUE

Getting around in Prague
What should you see in Prague?
Leisure time tips

STAYING IN PRAGUE

Charles University, Faculty of Arts

Department of Linguistics
Institute of Czech Language and Theory of Communication

Getting around in Prague

Prague has an integrated metro, tram and bus network – tickets are valid on all types of transport, and for transfers between them.

Tram

Extensive network of routes, best way for getting around shorter distances between neighbourhoods. Full service from 5 am to 12.30 am; limited service through the night.

Metro

Fast and frequent, good for visiting outlying areas or covering longer distances. Runs from 5 am to midnight.

Bus

Buses are not much use in the city centre, except for travelling to the airport or in areas not covered by tram or metro. They run from 4.30 am to around midnight, plus limited night service.

Taxi

Good value though prone to rip-off drivers operating in tourist areas, especially late at night. To avoid it, use Uber or local Liftago taxi app (liftago.com). You can also ask the taxi driver for the price in advance. You usually shouldn't pay more than 200 CZK.

Walking

The centre of Prague is compact and individual neighbourhoods are easily explored on foot.

Tickets

A full-price ticket costs 32 Kč per adult. A discounted ticket of 16 Kč is available to children aged six to 15 years and seniors aged 65 to 70 (kids under six ride free). Full price tickets are valid for 90 minutes of unlimited travel, including transfers.

For shorter journeys, buy short-term tickets that are valid for 30 minutes of unlimited travel. These cost 24 Kč per adult, 12 Kč per child/senior. You'll also need a 16 Kč ticket if you're carrying a dog or for each large suitcase or backpack (more than 25 cm × 45 cm × 70 cm).

Day passes are available for one or three days and make sense if you're planning on staying more than a few hours. One-day passes cost 110 Kč per adult, 55 Kč per child/senior; three-day passes cost 310 Kč (no discounts available for children or seniors).

Route search

An excellent tool for travel using public transport is Google Maps application (e.g. Android and iOS mobile systems): it will find your location, you just need to add the destination of your journey. The application will recommend the most convenient public transport route including the walking route to the bus stop and from the final stop to your destination place.

A local app you may find useful is IDOS (also available on your Android or IOS or on the web page idos.cz).

What should you see in Prague?

Prague is said to be the “heart of Europe” and is sometimes called the “mother of cities”. Over the centuries, people have invented such nicknames for Prague as the City of a Hundred Spires, Golden Prague or Magic Prague – always celebrating its architectural and spiritual richness and its mystical attraction. Faculty of Arts of the Charles University lies in the very heart of this former imperial city. A guided tour through Prague is a part of the program. For those of you who prefer to explore the city on their own, there is the TOP 10 list of Prague.

TOP 10

1. Prague Castle: Climb the Old Castle Steps to Prague Castle and visit its courtyards and the interiors of the Old Royal Palace. From St. Vitus Cathedral, head to the Golden Lane – a former haven for alchemists and charlatans.

2. Vyšehrad: Soak up the atmosphere of the Vyšehrad fortified settlement, where before the arrival of Christianity pagan princes prayed to their forest idols and where today stands one of the most beautiful churches in Prague.

3. Palace Gardens: Relax on the terraces of the Baroque gardens below Prague Castle and stroll through the narrow, steep streets of the Lesser Town.

4. Charles Bridge: Take an early morning walk across the medieval stone bridge, before its magnificent Baroque statues are besieged by crowds of tourists.

5. Old Town Square with the Astronomical Clock: Do not forget that the Old Town Square is the true heart of Prague. What's more, at the top of every hour you can see a procession of the Apostles on the Old Town Hall Astronomical Clock! Then, while enjoying a beer or coffee under Baroque arcades, you can watch the bustle on the square and admire the towers of Týn Church.

6. The Jewish town of Josefov: Follow the footsteps of Franz Kafka and Prague's famous rabbis to the narrow lanes of the former Jewish ghetto.

7. The Infant Jesus of Prague: Visit the Church of Our Lady Victorious, where pilgrims pray to the famous Infant Jesus of Prague for protection and help.

8. Municipal House: Go to a concert of Mozart or Vivaldi at the Municipal House, the most magnificent Czech Art Nouveau building.

9. Petřín Hill: Surrounded by trees on the top of Petřín, you will forget that you are in the heart of a metropolis.

10. Estates Theatre: Go to the Estates Theatre to see the opera The Marriage of Figaro where it was personally conducted by the genius Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1787. This opera has played here ever since.

Leisure time tips

Letná

Letná Park is flat and it is on a top of a hill and that means two things: perfect for picnic and beautiful view of the city. In the middle of the park there is a kind of square with a huge metronome, visible from the centre of the city. In the fifties there was the biggest Stalin's statue in Europe. It's just about 10 minutes from the faculty if you take a tram number 15 to *Letenské náměstí* or 20 minutes walking. Besides, the beer garden of Letná is legendary. It is a little bit hidden in one corner of the park, but once you find it you won't want to leave it.

Náplavka

Renovated riverbank in the centre of the city quickly became very popular among Prague citizens. With the first warm days many people come here for a walk along the river, roller-skate, ride a bike or have a beer and dance. Open air concerts, dance parties and discos are often organised in this spot and it is always great fun! If you are up to a Czech version of a beach party, you will like it here.

DOX center for contemporary art

There are plenty of exhibitions and other events held in this modern centre. It is a very inspiring place usually with many young alternative people around. Especially during summer, sitting on the roof is very pleasant. For reasonable price you can find there modern art in different shapes and forms in a place almost untapped by tourists. Quite often you can see student works you won't be able to see in any other gallery, because these people are not famous yet.

Vnitroblock

Vnitroblock brings together quite unrivalled industrial spaces with a wide range of cultural and artistic experiences. If you are after fashion and relaxation, you can go to the Signature store & café – a gallery space for young designers and a showroom for local and Central European fashion brands, doubling as a stylish café. In the Sector dance studio, you can choose from a range of movement classes. For those interested, there is a space set aside where you can just let your creative hair down and end up with, say, a T-shirt of your own design to take home.

Dlouhá street

Prague is home to the biggest club in Central Europe, the 5-floors Karlovy Lazne Club. But if you want to receive a complete nightlife package, Dlouha street is the place to be. There are dozens of bars and clubs playing various styles of music. Concretely, Roxy is a recommendable place. In this club something is happening almost every night.

Addresses:

DOX, Poupětova 1, 170 00 Praha 7

Dlouhá, 110 00 Praha 1

Karlovy lazne, Smetanovo náměstí. 198/1, 110 00 Praha 1

Letná, Letenské sady, 170 00 Praha 7

Náplavka, 128 00 Praha 2

Vnitroblock, Tusarova 791/31, 170 00 Praha 7
