

Prague



A city of magic and romance, a gem of architecture down the centuries; full of captivating ambience, resounding with the melodies of great composers, but also a modern metropolis pulsating with life; Prague is all these, one of the finest cities in the world. In 1992 its historical centre was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Area: 496 km² **Population:** 1,319,000 **Geographical location:** 50° 05' 19" North, 14° 25' 17" East, 235 m above sea level (avg) **Time zone:** Central European Time (GMT +1) – CET daylight saving time +1 (GMT +2)

Climate: Central European, continental with 4 seasons. **Vltava River** flows through the city for 31 km, widest point 330 m. **Historical centre:** Prague Castle (Hradčany), Lesser Town (Malá Strana), Old Town (Staré Město), New Town (Nové Město) and Vyšehrad.

Practical information:

Emergency phone line 112 Czech Republic dialing code: +420
Václav Havel Airport Prague (Letiště Václava Havela Praha)
prg.aero, 30 minutes from city centre

Airport access: Hlavní nádraží (C) Airport Express, trip length 33 minutes; Nádraží Velešovice (A) 119, trip length 17 minutes; Zličín (B) 100, trip length 16 minutes; Anděl (B) 191, trip length 51 minutes; Night bus 910 & 907

Public transport dpp.cz +420 296 19 18 17

Tourist passes for 24 (CZK 110) or 72 hours (CZK 310)

Municipal Health Centre Prague (Městská poliklinika Praha)

Spálená 12, Prague 1 +420 222 924 211 D3

24 hour Pharmacy Palackého 5, Prague 1 +420 224 946 982 D3

Currency: Czech crown (CZK); 1 euro = approx. 25 CZK **coins:** 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 CZK **banksnotes:** 100, 200, 500, 1000, 2000, 5000 CZK

Most shops, restaurants, hotels and other services accept major international payment cards. Cash available via a dense network of ATMs.

Main Post Office Jindřišská 14, Prague 1 +420 954 292 102
ceskaposta.cz daily 2:00–24:00 D3

Public toilets – in all Metro stations, usual opening hours: Mon–Fri 6:00–21:00, Sat–Sun 8:00–20:00, longer at central and connecting stations.

Public holidays in the Czech Republic

1 Jan – New Year's Day, Czech State Day • Good Friday and Easter Monday (moveable feast) • 1 May – Labour Day • 8 May – Victory Day • 5 July – Day of the Slavic Missionaries Cyril & Methodius • 6 July – Master Jan Hus' Imposition Day • 28 Sept – Czech Statehood Day • 28 Oct – Czechoslovak Independence • 17 Nov – Freedom and Democracy Day • 24 Dec – Christmas Eve • 25 Dec – Christmas Day • 26 Dec – St Stephen's Day

Top Prague Sights

Prague Castle (Pražský hrad) Prague 1 – Hradčany 4 hrad.cz

The Prague Castle panorama is one of the most impressive anywhere. One of the largest castle complexes in the world, with historical palaces, church buildings, extensive gardens and picturesque vistas. Prague Castle has for over a thousand years symbolized Czech statehood. Most notable is the Gothic Cathedral of Sts Vitus, Wenceslas and Adalbert (1344). C2



Charles Bridge (Karluv most) Prague 1 – Lesser Town, Old Town The oldest and most renowned Prague bridge was built in 1357 by Charles IV. At both ends stand fortified bridge towers – the twin Lesser Town Towers and the Old Town Tower, which is one of the finest gate towers of Gothic Europe. C3

St Nicholas Church (Kostel sv. Mikuláše) Malostranské náměstí, Prague 1 strnicholas.cz A prime example of Prague Baroque, with distinctive dome and bell tower. The Church is a key part of the panorama, and the left bank of the Vltava River. While staying in Prague, W. A. Mozart played the organ here. C3

Church of Our Lady Victorious – Infant Jesus of Prague (Kostel Panny Marie Vítězné – Přázké Ježíškovo) Karmelitská 9, Prague 1 prajesu.cz An early Baroque church renowned for its Infant Jesus statue from Spain, donated to the Carmelites by Polyxena of Lobkowitz (1628). C3

Strahov Monastery (Strahovský klášter) Strahovské náměstí 1, Prague 1 strahovskyklaster.cz The Premonstratensian monastery dates from 1140. Its grounds include the heritage Strahov Library and Strahov Picture Gallery, with remarkable collections of Central European Gothic, Rudolphine, Baroque and Rococo works of art. B3

Loreta Loretské náměstí 7, Prague 1 loreta.cz A Marian pilgrimage place with the replica of Holy House, and the Baroque Church of the Nativity. The so-called Loreto treasure is a set of liturgical objects, the most famous being the Diamond monstrance. B3/2

Clementinum Mariánské náměstí 5, Prague 1 klementinum.com An extensive complex, originally a Jesuit College. The guided tour includes the Astronomical Tower and Baroque Library Hall. The Mirror Chapel distinctively beset with mirrors is used as a concert hall. C3

Old-New Synagogue (Staronová synagoga)

Červená St., Prague 1 synagogue.cz

Among the oldest and most valuable European and World Jewish monuments, the oldest synagogue in Central Europe. The early Gothic, late 13th century building is still the temple for Prague's Jewish community. D2

Old Town Hall with Astronomical Clock (Staroměstská radnice s orlojem) Staroměstské náměstí 1, Prague 1 prague.eu/oldtownhall The Old Town Hall dates from 1338, presiding over the Old Town. The oldest Gothic part of the complex is the tower and the oriel chapel, as well as the medieval horologe, where every hour between 9:00–23:00 the 12 Apostles are to be seen. D3



Church of Our Lady before Týn (Chrám Matky Boží před Týnem)

Staroměstské náměstí, Prague 1 tyn.cz

One of the most impressive Gothic sacral buildings in Prague with an extensive gallery of Gothic, Renaissance and early Baroque works, e.g. fine altarpieces by Karel Škréta and the tomb of astronomer Tycho Brahe. D3

Municipal House (Obecní dům)

náměstí Republiky 5, Prague 1 obecnidrum.cz

Early 20th century Prague Art Nouveau at its best, the work of major artists of the period headed by none less than the renowned painter Alfons Mucha. The Smetana Concert Hall dominates the stunning interior. D3

Powder Tower (Prašná brána)

Na Příkopě, Prague 1 muzeumprahy.cz

A landmark of the late Gothic Prague, the start of the so-called Royal route to Prague Castle. It used to be a gunpowder warehouse. D3

Ryger's Park (Riegrový sad)

Prague 2 – Vinohrady

This park, over a hundred years old, has many half-hidden, wooded glades, open leas and uncommon vistas of Prague. E3/D3

Vyšehrad Park (Vyšehradské sady)

Prague 2 – Vyšehrad

A magical place of myths and legends, with romantic hideaways and beautiful vistas of the Vltava River. D4

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Vyšehrad

V Pevnosti, Prague 2 praha-vysehrad.cz

According to ancient legends the oldest seat of Czech princes, in fact the fortress dates back to the 10th century. Its parks encompass architectural treasures like the Romanesque Rotunda of St Martin, the neo-Gothic church of Sts Peter and Paul, the National Cemetery and other places of note. D4

Modern Architecture

Petřín Lookout Tower (Petřinská rozhledna)

Petřinské sady, Prague 1 muzeumprahy.cz

One of Prague's unmissable landmarks, built in 1891 as a loose copy of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, on a 1:5 scale. C3

Church of the Most Sacred Heart of Our Lord (Kostel Nejsvětějšího Srdce Páně)

náměstí Jiřího z Poděbrad, Prague 3 srdecepaneh.cz

The prime 20th century Czech sacral building by the Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik. The distinctive and monumental edifice is inspired by ancient Christian designs. E3

House at the Black Madonna (Dům U Černé Matky Boží)

Ovocný trh 19, Prague 1 upm.cz

The pinnacle of Czech Cubist architecture, exceptional for its façade and Cubist layout design, which goes right into the interior. Also houses a permanent exhibition of Czech Cubism. D3

Müller's Villa (Müllerova vila)

Nad Hradním vodojemem 14, Prague 6 muzeumprahy.cz

The villa is a world masterpiece of architectural avant-garde. The outside seems curvy Functionalist, the internal layout being more remarkable, 'flowing' one into another. B2

Dancing House (Tančící dům)

Jiráskovo náměstí 6, Prague 2 galerietancidum.cz

This exceptional building is a pillar of modern Prague architecture. Inspired by the dancing skill of that famous movie couple – Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. C3

Trade Fair Palace (Veletržní palác)

Dukelských hrdinů 47, Prague 7 nprague.cz

The first Functionalist building in Prague. Impressively sized at 140 x 75 m was once the largest building of its kind in the world. Today it holds the National Gallery's modern art collections. D2

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Prague's Parks and Gardens

Prague Castle Gardens (Zahrady hradu)

Prague Castle, Prague 1 hrad.cz

Historically most notable is the Royal Garden from 1534, with its Singing Fountain, which belongs among the finest Renaissance water fountains in Europe. From the Southern gardens, stretching beneath the Castle frontage, you get breathtaking views over Prague's historical centre. C2

Palace Gardens below Prague Castle (Palácové zahrady pod Pražským hradem)

Valdštejnská 14, Prague 1 palacove-zahrady.cz

On the southern slopes below Prague Castle is a showpiece complex of interrelated historical gardens with rich architectural decor, lookout terraces and pavilions set among the vegetation to charming effect. C2

Wallenstein Garden (Valdštejnská zahrada)

Letenská st., Prague 1

A geometrically set out early Baroque garden with monumental sala terrena and artificial grotto with a distinctive atmosphere. Free ranging peacocks accompany your walk. C2

Vrtbova Garden (Vrtbovská zahrada)

Karmelitská 25, Prague 1 vrtbovska.cz

One of the most important and finest Baroque gardens, though compact, architecturally original on its awkward slope, with sculptural artistic merit that makes it a garden of European importance. C3

Vojanov Garden (Vojanov sady)

U Lužického semináře 17, Prague 1

A little mysterious and unjustly overlooked. The pensiveness of Vojanov sady has lingered since the Middle Ages, when it was a monastery garden. C3

Petřín Gardens (Petřínské sady)

Prague 1 – Lesser Town

Petřín Hill is one of the largest urban expanses of greenery and its slopes are an oasis of calm in the centre of Prague. Atop stands Petřín Lookout Tower, which offers an enchanting view of the whole city. C3/B3

Rieger's Park (Riegrový sad)

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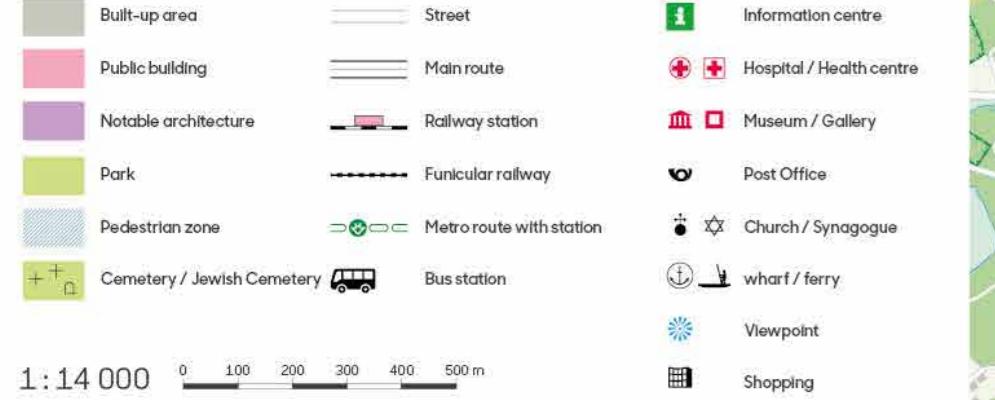
náměstí Republiky 5, Prague 1 obecnidrum.cz

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Na Pří

PRAGUE



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