

Tour Central Europe

970-749-5824

URL: www.TourCentralEurope.com

Email: fristenskytravel@gmail.com

Check the Czechs Tour:

The Czech Republic

This is the best and most comprehensive tour you will find anywhere!

- Departure:** TBD
From your point of departure in the USA for Prague
- Pick-up:** TBD
At Prague's Vaclav Havel Airport (PRG)
- Returning:** TBD
From Prague Airport

Tour Highlights:

Historic Prague....two days in Karlovy Vary, a picturesque hot springs town.... Plzen and the "Pilsner Urquell" brewery....camp fire and entertainment in the Czech Black Forest....spectacular town of Cesky Krumlov....Telc, the fairytale South-Bohemian village....the wine cellars of Mikulov....the monumental chateau of Lednice....Roznov, Frank's former home town and the Walachian Open Air Museum....historic city of Olomouc....Medieval dress up party at the private castle of Vilemov....Czech native speaking guidePleasing mix of touring, history, culture, music, nature and time at leisure.

DAY 1 (traveling day):

After arriving in **Prague (Praha** in Czech) (1, 100,000 pop.), we check into our hotel. Depending on our arrival, there might be time on your own. It is amazing what 25 years of freedom can do. Prague has always been historic. Now it is fun too. No place in Europe has become so popular so quickly. And for good reasons: Prague, the only Eastern European capital to escape the bombs of the last century's wars, is one of Europe's best-preserved cities. It is filled with sumptuous Art Nouveau facades, offers great musical entertainment, galleries, amazing museums and restaurants, and brews the best beer in Europe (perhaps in the World). Prague is the town of thousands of red roofs and spires.

Overnight in Prague.

DAY 2:

This morning we tour Prague with a local guide. We explore the Hradcany (the Prague Castle) district, home of the distinctive castle towering above the Vltava River. The castle today is the seat of the president of the Czech Republic. We stroll down along the Golden Lane, with its picturesque artisans' cottages. We cross the famous Charles Bridge into the Old Town Square with its Astronomical Clock Tower. We also walk along the Vltava River, passing by the National Theater and visit the Jewish Quarter. There are many other very interesting sites to see as we walk with our guide.

The remainder of the day is free to continue exploring this enchanting city on your own.

A welcome dinner on a private boat on the Vltava River.

Overnight in Prague.

(B-L-D)

DAY 3:

We travel west to **Karlovy Vary** (52,000 pop.), a world famous hot springs town. Karlovy Vary is quite literally built on water. There are 15 hot springs housed in or near five colonnades along the Tepla River. The legend has it that Karlovy Vary's hot springs were stumbled upon by pure chance. They were discovered by a dog, which fell into the first of the town's springs while out on a hunting trip with Emperor Charles IV. The town soon became a magnet for European aristocrats. The opulent 19th and early 20th century grandiose architecture forms a two-sided colonnade along the river Tepla that runs through the middle of town. We will enjoy a guided tour of town.

This afternoon there is free time to enjoy the town on your own. Stroll the promenade, shop the many interesting stores, and visit the Grand Hotel Pupp where the majority of the movie "The Last Holiday" with Queen Latifa was filmed. Some of the hot springs spas are open for public use.

Overnight in Karlovy Vary.

(B)

DAY 4:

After breakfast we tour the world famous Moser lead free crystal glass making factory. A visit to the **Moser Glass Factory** is a pleasure to everyone who enjoys crystal, glass products and the art of glass making. Engraver Ludwig Moser established the original glass factory and shop in 1857. Moser glass has been sought out ever since for its outstanding quality and artistry and is known worldwide as the "glass of kings". All products are made by hand in an array of shapes and Moser signature colors.

Following the glass factory visit we travel to the nearby **Loket Castle**. It is a 12th-century [Gothic](#) style castle located about 12 km from Karlovy Vary on a massive rock in the town of Loket. It is surrounded on three sides by the Ohře river. Once known as "the Impregnable Castle of Bohemia", because of its thick walls, it is one of the oldest and most valuable historical stone castles in the Czech lands. Upon return to Karlovy Vary you will have time to explore the town at your leisure.

Overnight night in Karlovy Vary.

(B)

DAY 5:

After breakfast we travel to **Plzen** (163,000 pop.), the capital of the western Czech Republic that was liberated by General Patton's 3rd Army in 1945. In 1295 A.D., the city of Nova Plzen (New Plzen) was founded by Czech King Wenceslas II on the confluence of the Radbuza and Mze rivers, 6 miles northwest of the original Old Plzen. New Plzen grew rapidly and soon became not only an important commercial center, but also the third Royal Town in Bohemia following Praha and Kutna Hora. Plzen has preserved its prominent position among Czech towns to the present day, 700 years after its founding. Plzen is an important cultural, economic, transport, commercial and industrial center, known primarily for the products of **Plzen Brewery (Pilsner Urquell)** and Skoda Engine Works. We will tour the town followed by lunch in the world famous brewery of "Pilsner Urquell" beer.

After lunch, we travel to the small town of **Klatovy** (23,500 pop.), located in the Plzen Region. The King Premysl Otakar II founded Klatovy during 1260-1263. We will have some time to explore Klatovy's historical main square with its important historic sites such as: the Black Tower, reaching a height of 81 meters (245 feet) and built between 1547-1557, and the Baroque Pharmacy, "U Bileho jednorozce" (At the White Unicorn), a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Following the Klatovy visit to our final destination of this day, we will make a stop at one of the youngest Czech castles, the **Water Castle of Svihov**, which was constructed at the turn of the 15th century. After that, we will travel to a nearby village of Jindrichovice to spend the evening and night at a very cozy private farm **Chateaux of Jindrichovice**. Evening will be spend at a camp fire with grilling of Czech sausages.

Overnight at Jindrichovice Chateaux.

(B-D)

DAY 6:

This morning we travel to **Sumava** (the Bohemian Black Forest) in the Southwest part of the country. This low mountain range extends from Southwest Bohemia to Austria and Bavaria in Germany. The forest is comprised of heavily forested mountains with an average elevation of 2400 to 4200 feet. As a border region, it has had a complicated history. In the 20th century it was literally part of the Iron Curtain, and large areas were stripped of human occupation. These unique circumstances led to the preservation of nature and forest ecosystems relatively unspoiled by human activity.

We will hike about 2.5 miles along the Vydra River in the Sumava Forest. In the afternoon visit the monumental **Kasperk Castle**. It is well preserved and picturesque castle sitting on the rock spit above the Otava river. It is the highest situated royal castle in Bohemia.

Overnight in Kasperske Hory.

(B-D)

DAY 7:

We depart this morning for Cesky Krumlov (14,000 pop.), a small ancient city in the South Bohemian Region (UNESCO World Heritage Site). Construction of the town and the castle began in the late 13th century at a ford in the Vltava River. The core of the old town is within a horseshoe bend of the river. The famous Krumlov Castle contains a preserved Baroque theater (dated at 1776), complete with original stage machinery, scenery and props. We enjoy a guided tour of the picturesque town, the castle and the Baroque theater.

We are free to explore the city's many special small shops, galleries, and cafes on our own. We will have dinner and special evening concert.

Overnight in Cesky Krumlov.

(B-D)

DAY 8:

All day at our leisure in this historic and very picturesque town.

Overnight in Cesky Krumlov.

(B)

DAY 9:

Following a restful and enjoyable day we continue to the town of **Slavonice**, which is situated in the Bohemian-Moravian Uplands near the river Dyje. Slavonice borders three historical territories: Bohemia, Moravia and Austria. We will make a stop at a ceramic shop Marin for a “**craft adventure**” in which each participant will paint his/her own ceramic pot that can be taken home.

After lunch we continue to **Telc** (6,000 pop.), a picturesque South-Bohemian town, where we tour the stunning town square. The square is huge and is bordered on three sides by 16th century Renaissance houses that were built on the ruins of Gothic structures. We then continue to the small town of **Nova Rize** where we visit a cloister's unique library.

After Nova Risa, we head for **Mikulov**, located near the Austrian border. Here we enjoy an evening dinner and “program” in the Mikulov cave's wine cellar.

Overnight in Mikulov.

(B-L-D)

DAY 10:

After breakfast, we travel to **Lednice** to tour one of the most spectacular chateaux in the country. The chateau, built in 1856, is neo-Gothic, with carved wood interiors. The extensive gardens that include lakes, a pavilion, and a Turkish-style minaret will be visited by a horse-drawn carriage and by boat.

We continue to **Zlin**, (50,000 pop.), the 3rd largest city in the Moravian part of the country. Zlin lies along the river Drevenice in a mild climatic area of southeastern Moravia. It is also a crossroads for the ethnographic boundaries of the Walachian, Hana and Moravian-Slovak Regions. The city is famous as the birthplace of the founder of the colossal Bata Shoe empire, Thomas Bata.

Overnight in Zlin.

(B)

DAY 11:

Today we travel to **Vizovice**, home of the Czech plum brandy Slivovice, and a tour of the original **Jelinek Slivovice factory**.

In the afternoon, we continue to **Roznov pod Radhostem** (Frank lived in this town for 15 years). The region of Roznov is situated at the foot of the Moravian Beskids Mountains. This is the most frequented region of the district with many significant cultural memorials and all season recreational activities. The most popular attraction in Roznov is the **Walachian Open-Air Museum**. The museum provides treasures of the popular architecture, trades and life of the Walachian countryside in the 19th century. Dinner in the Walachian Village with musical entertainment.

Overnight in Roznov

(B-L-D)

DAY 12:

We leave for **Mt. Radhost** (near Roznov) and hike to the chapel of St. Cyril and St. Methodius. The Chapel dates to 1898 and is the place of frequent international pilgrimages.

You have the afternoon to further explore the town of Roznov. Dinner is on our own.

Overnight in Roznov.

(B)

DAY 13:

We travel west to **Litovel**, to the home of Frank's granduncle **Gustav Fristensky**, world-renowned Greco-Roman wrestler. Here we visit his estate and family. The little town of Litovel is situated in the Morava river basin in the beautiful protected area called the *Upper-Moravian dale*. Litovel is proud of its 700 year long history. It is documented by numerous historical buildings and a copious collection in the local museum. We are given a tour of Litovel's unique brewery after which we have lunch.

After lunch, we continue to **Olomouc** (101,000 pop.), Frank's birth place. The historical city center of Olomouc is the most renowned and best-preserved city in all of Moravia. It reflects the most important moments in the governmental, spiritual, artistic and civic developments of a thousand years of history. We will have a guided tour of the town's most important historical sites.

Overnight in Olomouc

(B-L-D)

DAY 14:

In the morning we will a stop at the castle **Bouzov**. It is the country's one of the most spectacular castles. Many fairy-tale movies were filmed at its compounds.

We continue to the private castle of **Vilemov**. Here, we go back 500 years, back in time to the Middle Ages. We move into the castle's private suites and relax in the castle's surroundings. In the evening we dressed in medieval attire and experience an era appropriate, festive dinner followed by live chamber music.

Overnight in the castle Vilemov.

(B-L-D)

DAY 15:

We leave this morning for **Prague**. After we reach the capital city, the remainder of the day is yours to relax, shop or to continue exploring the city on your own. A farewell dinner and an evening performance in the National Theater or the State Opera House is planned.

Overnight in Prague.

(B)

DAY 16 (traveling day):

Early this morning we transfer to the airport in Prague for our connecting flights to the U.S.

(B)

TOUR SPECIFICATIONS AND PRICING

Upon signing up for this tour, you will receive a booklet with important and helpful information, including detailed itinerary, money exchange, what to pack, electrical appliances, cell phones, hotel addresses and phone numbers, medical concerns, suggested readings, information on visiting places, and much more.

This trip has been custom-designed specifically for a small group of just 12 to 14 guests to appreciate unique natural landscapes, cultural and historical sites, culinary treats, behind the scene treasures, and authentic encounters. You will never feel like you are a part of a herd. We like to travel light – smaller group causes little environmental and cultural disturbance, which allows you to get closer to the world you are exploring.

We will be traveling in a private air-conditioned mid-size bus. We realize that hotels are not the main reason for you to select a tour. But great accommodation can improve the tour experience. We are selecting hotels according to our previous satisfied experience or hotels that we believe are the best for our particular trip. European hotels are usually smaller than those in the U.S.A. Also, air conditioning isn't as common as at home and in some country setting hotels elevators may not be available (we'll help you with your luggage). Our goal is to select accommodations that will offer you a nice and clean place, with the usual amenities or better, good service and good location. In larger cities, our hotels are usually centrally located so you can get around easily. In rural areas we will offer unique lodging that will provide local ambiance larger groups never experience.

YOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Small group of up to 14 guests.
- All accommodations.
- All breakfasts, 5 lunches and 9 dinners as indicated on the itinerary (beverages are not included).
- All land transportation.
- Entrance fees for all planned events.
- Transfer from/to the airport (only on the official arriving and departure day).
- Guided tours and special events.

Note: Roundtrip air-fare from your point of departure is not included.

All land arrangements as described above:

- Double room occupancy: **\$TBD per person**
- Single room occupancy: **\$TBD**

Deposit of \$700.00 per guest is due with sign up to secure your spot. It is fully refundable if Tour Central Europe cancels the tour.

Limited space reservation to 14 people - first come, first served basis.

The prices are based on minimum of 12 travelers. For a fewer than 12 registered travellers by 95 days prior to departure the tour cost may proportionally increase to compensate for the missing number of travellers. We reserve the right to cancel the tour due to insufficient number of travelers.

We would like to suggest arranging your own round trip air travel from your hometown to Prague and from Prague back home. Please contact us first prior to making your reservation. If you are not able to make your own travel plans we will assist you.

In order to get the full benefit of this trip adequate degree of physical conditioning is recommended due to a good amount of walking and some hiking on our tour. If you need assistance in getting around, our tour may not be appropriate for you. Please contact us prior making a decision on this tour.

We are strongly recommending purchasing a travel insurance to protect yourself and your investment in case you have to cancel or interrupt this tour. In order to provide you with the most effective coverage, the policy exclusion for "Pre-Existing Conditions" will be waived if you purchase a plan within 14 days of making your initial deposit payment for your trip. Please let us help you with securing your travel insurance.

Please consult the "[Reservations](#)" and "[Terms & Conditions/Travel Insurance](#)" sections for more pertinent information concerning this tour.

In order to secure the best possible air-fair and our reserved hotels please register early! Before securing your flight arrangements, please check with us on the number of registered travelers.