

Tour Central Europe

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2023 Check the Czechs Tour

*Departure: Friday, May 5, 2023**

*From your point of departure in the USA for Prague (PRG)

Pick-up: **Saturday, May 6, 2023 at the Vaclav Havel Airport in Prague**

Returning: **Saturday, May 20, 2023 from Prague**

2 traveling days, 13 program days

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – Saturday, May 6

Pick up at the Vaclav Havel airport in Prague. *Please arrange for an early PM arrival in Prague.*

Transfer to hotel in Prague.

Overnight in Prague.

DAY 2 – Sunday, May 7

Tour of Prague with a guide. We'll tour the most magnificent sites of Prague. You will learn not only history of Prague, but about the entire Czech country, which was "born" in 1918. You will hear about the important events of the Czechs/Slovaks before and during the WWII, the Communist time after 1948-1989, the Prague Spring of 1968, and more from Frank during the tour as well.

Free afternoon. Welcome dinner.

Overnight in Prague.

(B-L-D)

DAY 3 – Monday, May 8

We'll travel west to Karlovy Vary (52,000 pop.) a world's famous hot springs and spa town in the western part of the country. Karlovy Vary is quite literally built on water because the river Tepla (Warm) flows through the main part of the city. The picturesque buildings, housing many of the town's spa resorts are lined up along the river.

Touring the city with a guide. Free afternoon and evening.

Overnight in Karlovy Vary.

(B)

DAY 4 – Tuesday, May 9

After breakfast we'll tour the well-known Moser lead free crystal glass making factory. This factory belongs to one of the Czech historical/industrial treasures. A visit to the Moser Glass Factory is a pleasure not only who enjoys crystal, glass products and the art of glass making but for everyone.

Following the glass factory visit, we'll travel to the nearby Locket Castle. It is a 12th-century Gothic style castle located about 12 km from Karlovy Vary on a massive rock in the town of Locket. 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 in Karlovy Vary.

(B)

DAY 5 – Wednesday, May 10

This morning we'll be heading south to the small historic town of Klatovy (23,500 pop.), located in the Plzen Region. We we'll have time to explore Klatovy's historical main square dominated by its "Black Tower", built between 1547-1557, and reaching a height of 245 feet. We also will visit the unique Baroque Pharmacy "U Bileho Jednorozce" (At the White Unicorn), a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

From Klatovy, we'll continue to our final destination for this day, the town of Kasperske Hory.
Overnight in Kasperske Hory.

(B-D)

DAY 6 – Thursday, May 11

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 – Friday, May 12

We depart this morning for Cesky Krumlov (14,000 pop.), a small ancient and 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 at one of the local restaurants.

Overnight in Cesky Krumlov.

(B-D)

DAY 8 – Saturday, May 13

All day at your leisure to explore many secrets of this town town.

Overnight in Cesky Krumlov.

(B)

DAY 9 – Sunday, May 14

Following a restful and enjoyable day we continue to another uniquely built town of Telc (6,000 pop.), which is for its historic importance of Gothic architecture and stunning Renaissance houses that are encircling the town square. The square is registered by the World UNESCO Heritage Site. We will have a lunch here.

Following our Telc visit, we'll continue to the town of Mikulov, located near the Austrian border. Mikulov is another picturesque town on a hill dominated by the Mikulov Castle. Here, we enjoy an evening dinner and "program" in the Mikulov cave's wine cellar.

Overnight in Mikulov.

(B-D)

DAY 10 – Monday, May 15

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. In addition, to the chateaux, we'll also visit the chateaux's extensive gardens that include lakes, a pavilion, and a Turkish-style minaret. From here, we'll venture further east and cross into the ethnographic boundaries of the Walachian, Hana, and Moravian-Slovak Regions to the town of Roznov pod Radhostem (Roznov for short).

Overnight in Roznov.

(B-D)

DAY 11 – Tuesday, May 16

Roznov pod Radhostem is a town. The region, also known as Walachia, 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.

(Frank lived for fifteen years in Roznov, more than fifty years ago, and it is his home town now again).

Dinner in the Walachian Museum/Village with musical entertainment.

Overnight in Roznov.

(B-D)

DAY 12 – Wednesday, May 17

This morning, we'll turn our voyage towards the west and will continue to another interesting town related to Frank's family. The town of Litovel, which was the home of Frank's granduncle Gustav Fristensky, who was world-renowned Greco-Roman wrestler. In Litovel, we'll visit the unique exposition of Gustav, incorporated in the local museum. Further, we'll stroll through the "walled" town, and have a lunch in the famous beer hall that serves beer called Gustav. After lunch, we'll continue to the historic city of Olomouc (100,000 pop.), which is the sixth largest city in the country. It is a major city in Moravia and the capital of the administrative region of the same name.

Overnight in Olomouc.

(B-L)

DAY 13 – Thursday, May 18

After breakfast, we'll travel to Prague. After settling in our hotel in Prague, there will be time on your own. In the evening a musical performance in one of the Prague's estate theaters is on the program.

Overnight in Prague.

(B)

DAY 14 – Friday, May 19

This day is reserved for you to relax, shop, pack or to continue exploring the city on your own. Later this evening, there will be a farewell dinner that will conclude our Czech adventure.

Overnight in Prague.

(B-D)

DAY 15 – Saturday, May 20

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

(B)

NASHLEDANOU