

CZECH REPUBLIC

the heart of Europe

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Czechia
- “Czech republic” since 1993
- 3 parts – Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia; 14 areas/regions
- Language: Czech + slangs, “Ahoj!”
- Currency: czech crown (current rate: 1 euro = ca 24 czk)





= 5 €

= 10 €

= 20 €

= 40 €

= 80 €

= 200 €

Salaries

Average salary 33 000 Kč
= 1 300 €

Prices in stores

- Large bread 1.50 €
- Butter 1,50 €
- Milk 1.00 €
- Meat (kg) 6 - 9 €
- Coffee at the bar 1.50 €



CZECH NATURE

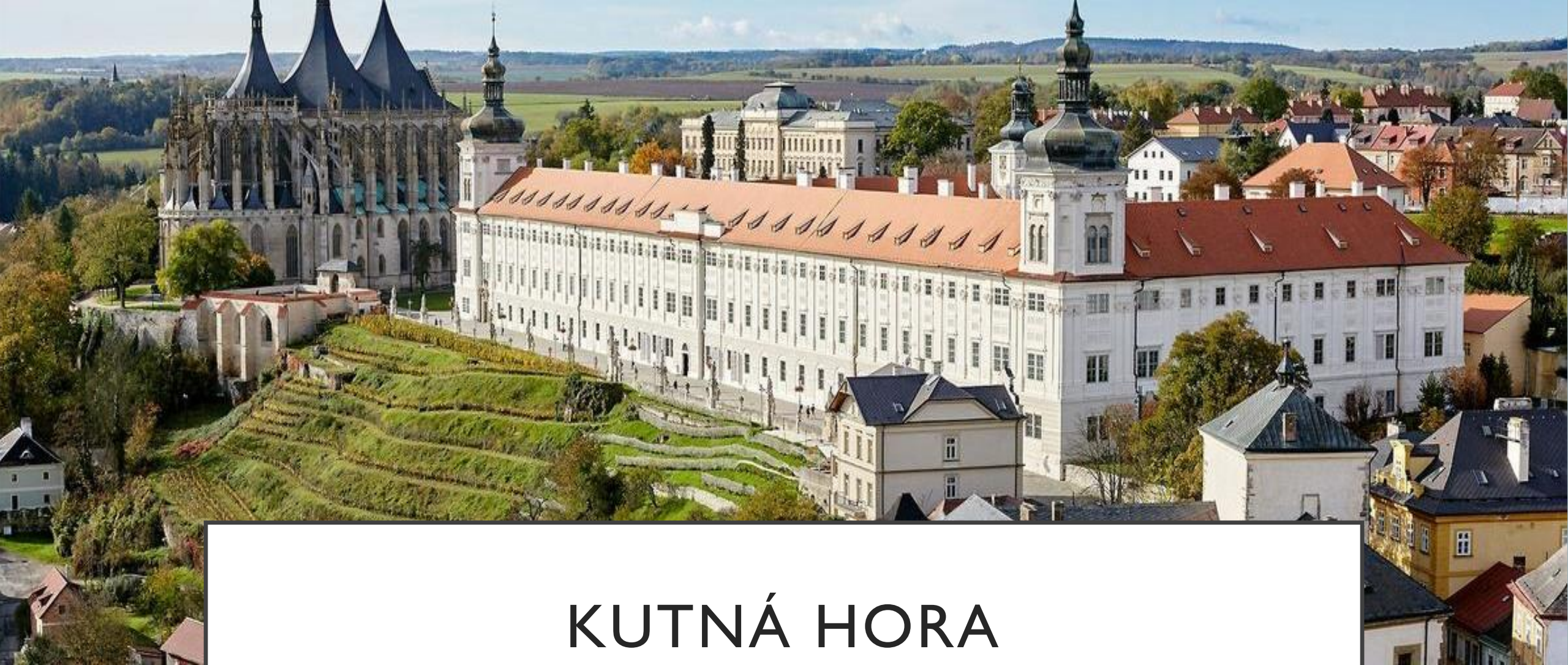
- The highest mountain: Sněžka
 - Very popular for sunsets, sunrises are better and less crowded
- Vltava – in summer very popular for canoing etc.
- Big hiking culture
 - National parks/Protected landscape areas: Bohemian Switzerland, Bohemian Paradise, Krkonoše (Sněžka is located here)
- Skiing – Krkonoše, Špindlerův mlýn + it's quite close to Austria from here so...

CITIES AND FAMOUS PLACES

- Moravia
 - Brno - villa Tugendhat, I0-Z Bunker for sleeping, galleries with free entry
 - Telč – often used for shooting fairytales
 - Olomouc
- Cities: Český Krumlov (tourist city), Karlovy Vary (spa + film festival), Jičín (“the city of a fairytale”), Plzeň (science museum), Ostrava (music festival + “coal” city)
- Castles and churches: Hluboká, Lednice, Houska (legend about a hole to hell), Pilgrimice Church in Žďár nad Sázavou
- UNESCO – we have quite a lot of UNESCO places, check them out



ČESKÝ KRUMLOV




KUTNÁ HORA



TELČ
AND SOUTH BOHEMIA





**PILGRIMAGE
CHURCH OF
ST. JOHN OF
NEPOMUK
IN ŽĎÁR NAD
SÁZAVOU**



CASTLE LEDNICE-VALTICE (MORAVIA)

Lednice Valtice Area UNESCO

TRANSPORTATION

- App+website “**IDOS**” for all transportation
 - <https://t.idos.idnes.cz/vlakyautobusymhdvse/spojeni/>
- Trains – app “**Můj vlak**” for national train company only, regiojet
 - Almost everywhere, usually late
- Buses – flixbus, regiojet
- Blablacar
- Hitchhiking



HISTORY

- 19th century – Austro-Hungarian Empire
- 1918 – First republic – Czechoslovakia
- 1939 – 1945 – Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia
- 1989 – Velvet revolution

- Recent presidential elections



CUISINE

- Trdelník – nope, it’s Hungarian; Kofola – probably Slovakian, but it’s good!
- Langoš – savoury or sweet, sort of a fried pancake, it is NOT a czech pizza!
- We put ketchup and cheese almost everywhere
- Fried cheese and hermelín (pickled and grilled)
- We are big on sweets - dumplings, cakes, pancakes
 - Cake – “dort” & “buchta”
- Beer – Vinohradská 11, Únětice, Ferdinand; I personally recommend to try beer from small breweries
 - Festival of microbreweries at Prague Castle 9th - 10th of June 2023
- Wine – Moravia is a region of wine



HOW FOREIGNERS SEE CZECH PEOPLE?



WHAT ARE WE ACTUALLY LIKE?

- We are n.1 country in consumption of beer
- We actually made a lot of inventions - “robot”, contact lenses, sugar cube, blood type
- Mainly atheist or agnostics, generally not much of a Christian country
- The highest density of castles
- Big sport fans – football and hockey



FAMOUS CZECHS

- Statesmen: Charles IV., Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (TGM), Václav Havel
- Sport: Jaromír Jágr (hockey), Ester Ledecká (snowboard, ski)
- Authors + artists
 - Franz Kafka – foreigners are obsessed with him, Czechs not so much; he didn't want to have his texts published
 - Milan Kundera – his book collection was recently transferred to Brno from France (where he lives); The unbearable lightness of being
 - Alfons Mucha – lived in Paris, Art Nouveau
 - David Černý - “Enthropia”, Kafka's head, currently actually quite hated
- Jára Cimrman

CULTURE I

- Movies
 - Historical: Pelíšky, Anthropoid, Lidice
 - Directors: Miloš Forman, Zdeněk Svěrák, czech new wave directors (Jiří Menzel, Věra Chytilová – Daisies)
 - Bunch of stupid comedies with the same actors (they are on Netflix)
 - Karlovy Vary International Film Festival
- Art
 - A lot of galleries and art events
 - Léna Brauner, David Čáp, Michal Gabriel, Mr. Kriss (also a dancer)

CULTURE II

- Music
 - A lot of music festivals – Povaleč, Colours of Ostrava, Hradý CZ, Rock for People
 - MYDY, Aiko, Tolstoys, Milion+ (Yzomandias, Calin), Emma Smetana and Jordan Haj, Hm..., Tomáš Klus, Giudi, Bert & Friends
 - Eurovision: We Are Domi

CULTURE EVENTS DURING YOUR STAY

EASTER (7TH – 10TH APRIL)

- On Saturday, Easter pie and sweets such as "*beránek* [lamb]" or "*mazanec*" and "*jidáše*" are prepared.
- The celebrations then continue on Sunday.
- What about Monday? Monday is full of folk traditions!



EASTER

- **Decorated eggs** - the symbol of Easter
- Traditionally decorated and colored differently, depending on family or regional traditions



EASTER

- **Pomlázka (willow whip)** - the symbol of Easter Monday
- Boys and men whip their girls and women with willow whips because they want them to stay healthy and young for a long time.
- Pomlázka are handmade by each man.
- Boys and men visit their neighbors to go from house to house whipping their girls and women with pomlázka and singing Easter songs and in return they receive decorated eggs, a colorful pomlázka ribbon, something sweet or something stronger



USEFUL PRACTICAL INFO

- We tip – approxiamtely around 10%
- Deposit on almost all glass beer bottles
- The tap water is drinkable everywhere
- Most so called vietnamese shops are open until late at night
- **DO NOT EXCHANGE MONEY ON THE STREET** – never ever, there is a lot of scammers
 - Revolut is great

USEFUL LINKS

- Artmap: <https://www.artmap.cz>
- Goout: <https://goout.net/en/>
- Idos: <https://t.idos.idnes.cz/vlakyautobusymhdvse/spojeni/>
- Honest Guide youtube channel: <https://youtube.com/@HONESTGUIDE>
- Mapy.cz - downloadable maps with touristic routes



WE WISH YOU A NICE STAY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC!

