



**Czech Republic**  
Land of Stories

**Luxury**

**Holidays**

**in the Czech Republic**

# The Czech Republic

A Land of Stories



Prague



Prague

A rich history and strong cultural heritage are the elements that most shape the Czech Republic. Yet the uniqueness of this country, nestled in the very heart of Europe, comes from the great diversity of places and experiences which it offers its visitors.

A long weekend is simply not long enough to fully discover the Czech Republic – it is a country far too exceptional, far too distinctive and far too interesting. When choosing accommodations, you can select from a wide range of luxury hotels.

In restaurants with magnificent views of the historical parts of the city you can enjoy local and international cuisine. As for shopping, Prague is dotted with boutiques selling the world's top fashion brands, as well as shops offering traditional Czech products such as cut glass, porcelain, garnets and diamond jewellery. The country's spa towns, with their premium wellness packages, are the perfect place to relax your body. You can also enjoy ideal conditions for golf here. And last but not least, thanks to its romantic scenery, the



Locket

Czech Republic is a wonderful place to hold your wedding ceremony.

Whether you are planning an active or a more relaxing holiday, this country is able to meet even the most exacting requirements for an unforgettable holiday. The brochure which you hold in your hands is full of practical ideas for creating great memories in all of the above-mentioned areas.



Prague is  
a Metropolis  
of Luxury

# Delight in Shopping

Dinner with a cruise on the Vltava River. Cap off a day full of shopping with a romantic cruise on the Vltava. Rent one of the roofed boats moored right next to the Charles Bridge. During dinner you will have an unbeatable panoramic view of the Prague Castle. Pražské Benátky (Prague Venice), Platněřská 4, Prague 1, [www.prazske-benatky.cz/en/](http://www.prazske-benatky.cz/en/)

Luxury boutiques with famous international brands, elegant shops featuring top Czech designers, unique antiques shops with a magical atmosphere, shops selling traditional Czech glass, porcelain and jewellery – all of this makes Prague an ideal metropolis for shopping for a wide range of premium goods.

The best place to shop for these products is in the historical centre of the city, near the Old Town Square.

**Pařížská Street** ([www.parizskaulice.cz](http://www.parizskaulice.cz)), close to the Old Town Square, is the most exclusive shopping avenue in the Czech Republic – the ultimate symbol of luxury. It is reminiscent of a wide Parisian boulevard, with which it can also be compared in terms of the quality of services provided and the wide range of fashionable goods. You can choose from nearly 50 well-established boutiques, with a focus on French and Italian brands.

In the middle of the boulevard you will encounter the first Czech **Simple**

**Concept Store** (Pařížská 20, Prague 1). This unique project combines a boutique and a gallery in one. Art lovers also come here for inspiration. Customers have at their fingertips a great range of women's and men's clothing, handbags, accessories and footwear by top international brands such as Christian Louboutin, Yves Saint Laurent, Chloé, Lanvin, Balenciaga, Givenchy and Balmain, to name but a few, as well as top Czech designers.

**Prague's Josefov quarter** is where the most distinguished Czech fashion designers have their boutiques. Their creations are generally characterized by a combination of timeless minimalism and innovative details.



Simple Concept Store

**Klára Nadehlýnská** (Dlouhá 3, Prague 1, [www.klaranadehlýnska.cz](http://www.klaranadehlýnska.cz)) designed her collection "Cosmos" specially for the international exhibition EXPO 2010 in Shanghai. Tatiana (Dušní 1, Prague 1, [www.tatiana.cz](http://www.tatiana.cz)) is known mainly for her coats, which excel with their feminine approach, clean lines and timelessness.

**Hana Havelková** (Dušní 10, Prague 1, [www.havelkova.com/en](http://www.havelkova.com/en)) focuses primarily on high-society fashions, great evening gowns and wedding dresses. **Timoure et group** (V Kolkovně 6, Prague 1, [www.timoure.cz](http://www.timoure.cz)) offers easily combined classics as well as trendy designs.

Thanks to its rich history, Prague is a perfect place to buy **antiques**. The best antiques shops are located in the city centre, especially in the Old Town and Josefov districts. If you go to Kaprova Street 12, you will find the small shop Starožitnosti (meaning Antiques). The oldest items come from the end of the 16th century, while the majority are from the 19th century. You can expect to see finely crafted jewellery, small pieces of furniture, porcelain, clocks, paintings, glass vases and porcelain statuettes.



Blanka Matragi

Further information about shopping in Prague can be found at: [www.lonelyplanet.com/czech-republic/prague/shopping](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/czech-republic/prague/shopping)

**Blanka Matragi** is a Czech fashion designer who has prepared an exclusive line called Haute Couture. Her opulent dresses decorated with jewels are popular with Arab princesses and in diplomatic circles. The designs, sewn from hand-dyed and painted fabrics and embellished with Swarovski stones and beads, are genuine fashion gems. Matragi Design, U Prašné brány 2, Prague 1, [www.blanka.com](http://www.blanka.com)



Major Czech  
Brands

# Fragile Beauty



You will carry with you crystal memories and a wonderful experience from the Moser Museum on the Old Town Square (Staroměstské náměstí 603/15, Prague 1), right in the heart of Prague. Here you will discover the tradition of Czech glassmaking and you can also buy valuable souvenirs.

From our travels, we take home experiences and memories. If you want to bring back from Prague something really exclusive, an ideal choice is Bohemian garnet jewellery or crystal glass.

## Preciosa develops the tradition of master glassmakers

The production of crystal glass is a traditional Czech industry with a three-century history. The Preciosa company (Jindřišská 19, Prague 1, [www.preciosa.cz](http://www.preciosa.cz)) continues this craft heritage with great success, specializing in luxurious crystal jewellery and opulent chandeliers and lighting fixtures that adorn the interiors of the most luxurious hotels, palaces and restaurants throughout the world.

## Moser crystal masterpieces are the paragon of exclusivity

The founding of the Moser glassworks (Na Příkopě 12, Prague 1, [www.moser-glass.com](http://www.moser-glass.com)) dates back to 1857. All of its crystal products are blown, cut, engraved, painted and polished by hand. They are regularly a part of important

occasions in the lives of European royal families, thus they proudly carry the nickname "the glass of kings". Moser products combine trends in the field of design with a tradition of exceptional glassmaking craftsmanship going back several generations.

## Thun porcelain carries a distinctive hallmark of tradition

If you are more interested in porcelain than in glass, you must not forget the elegant brand Thun (Vinohradská 61, Prague 2, [www.thun.cz](http://www.thun.cz)). The company is the largest Czech producer of porcelain, emanating from a craft tradition that dates back more than 200 years. The superior quality of the sturdy porcelain from Karlovy Vary is ensured by a firing temperature of 1,405 °C.



Thun porcelain

## The Bohemian Garnet is the crimson heart among gemstones

If you want to take home from the Czech Republic a truly typical piece of jewellery, it should be made of Bohemian garnets, which masterfully combine great beauty with precision craftsmanship. This globally renowned semi-precious stone with a dark red hue has been used in the goldsmith's craft since the 14th century. If you want to be certain that you are buying a true original, we recommend purchasing directly in the shops of Granát Turnov (Dlouhá 28 or Panská 1, Prague 1, [www.granat.cz](http://www.granat.cz)).

You can find inspiration for choosing the most original souvenirs from Prague at: [www.myczechrepublic.com/czech-souvenirs/czech-crystal.html](http://www.myczechrepublic.com/czech-souvenirs/czech-crystal.html)

Or go for dinner to the famous restaurant Villa Richter below Prague Castle, which is decorated with luxurious glass lighting fixtures. In addition to offering excellent cuisine, it also offers breathtaking views of the historic city centre.

You can admire the unique art of Czech glassmakers at the Baroque Tuscany Palace in Prague and inside the Buddha Bar, Mandarin Oriental and Crowne Plaza hotels. All are adorned with crystal chandeliers from the masters' workshop of the Preciosa company.



# Gastronomy

## Epicurean Experiences in the Czech Capital

Prague offers a wide variety of restaurants whose food can be considered a true gourmet experience. Most of them are located in the heart of the capital city and offer breathtaking views of its historical areas. We recommend making reservations ahead of time, because tables in the best places tend to be booked up several days in advance.

### Restaurants awarded a Michelin star in 2012

You will experience traditional Czech cuisine in a modern form at **La Degustation Bohême Bourgeoise** (Haštalská 18, Prague 1, [www.ladegustation.cz](http://www.ladegustation.cz)). This unique enterprise, which has no equivalent in the Czech Republic, focuses on updated classic dishes from the Czech culinary tradition of the late 19th century. It is a real experience for guests to watch meals being prepared right before their eyes.

Dinner in the Art Deco style can be experienced at the **Alcron restaurant** in the Radisson Blu Alcron Hotel

(Štěpánská 40, Prague 1, [www.alcron.cz](http://www.alcron.cz)). An original marble fireplace from the 1930s and wallpaper inspired by the work of Tamara de Lempicka complete the unforgettable atmosphere of this intimate restaurant, which has space for just 24 guests. Gourmet dishes in the form of a tasting menu, flawless service and stunning interiors all promise a spectacular evening.



Did you know that the restaurant U Zlaté Studně is part of the eponymous luxury hotel? The travellers' website TripAdvisor ranks it among the top 25 hotels in the world.



# Modern Haute Cuisine Outside Prague



Prague



Karlovy Vary

**Romance in a rock restaurant.** The Svatá Klára restaurant, adjacent to the Troja Chateau (U Trojského zámku 9, Prague 7–Troja, [www.svataklara.cz](http://www.svataklara.cz)), is an ideal place for a romantic dinner. The original interior is created from rock with a cave, a fireplace and golden candelabra, evoking scenes from historical films.

## Other luxury restaurants in Prague

A dining experience with a stunning view of Prague is offered at Terasa **U Zlaté Studně** (U Zlaté studně 4, Prague 1, [www.terasauzlatestudne.cz](http://www.terasauzlatestudne.cz)). The building's history dates to 1528. From the terrace of the restaurant you will see that Prague really is the City of a Hundred Spires. After a lunch here you can enjoy a stroll through the Prague Castle gardens, which are accessible directly from the terrace. In 2012, it was named the restaurant of the year by the best-known Czech gastro guide, Maurer's Grand Restaurant Guide.

**Lunch at the Dancing House with a beautiful view of Prague Castle.** The Céleste restaurant is located inside the Dancing House – a genuine gem of modern architecture (Rašínovo nábřeží 1981/80, Prague 2, [www.celeste-restaurant.cz](http://www.celeste-restaurant.cz)). This restaurant prepares creative interpretations of French dishes, with an emphasis on food presentation and a quality selection of wines.



Český Krumlov

**It is also worthwhile to travel outside Prague for epicurean experiences. In just a few hours, you can find yourself in the picturesque historical town of Český Krumlov or in the elegant spa town of Karlovy Vary.**

with excellent wines. It blends traditional Czech food preparation methods with current trends in gastronomy.

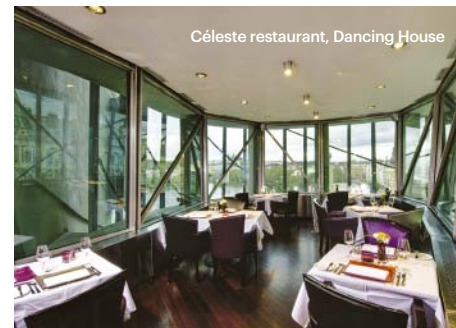
An interesting flourish is the staff dressed in period outfits.

**Baroque Castle Theatre.** See something unique in all of Europe. Part of the Český Krumlov castle complex, it is one of the world's best conserved Baroque theatres with the original building intact along with its orchestra pit, stage, machinery, backdrops, libretti and costumes.



For a selection of top restaurants in the Czech Republic, check out [www.czechspecials.com](http://www.czechspecials.com).

For a peek into the past, visit the **Art Nouveau French Restaurant** in the Municipal House (Náměstí Republiky 5, Prague 1, [www.francouzskarestaurace.cz/en](http://www.francouzskarestaurace.cz/en)). This restaurant with a century of tradition will take you back to the time when Prague was awash with Art Nouveau. The food served here is magnificent in appearance and taste. You will have the feeling here that you are royalty and that everything revolves around you. You can round off your evening with one of the concerts held regularly in the same building, the Municipal House ([www.obecnidum.cz](http://www.obecnidum.cz)).



Céleste restaurant, Dancing House



Fruit dumplings

## Karlovy Vary

The founding of this world-famous spa town with healing springs dates back to the 14th century. The renowned Karlovy Vary International Film Festival has been taking place here in early July since 1946. During a walk along the spa promenade you can enjoy the beauty of historical houses and spa hotels. You can taste delicious dishes at any of the local four- and five-star hotels. The journey from Prague takes just two hours, so don't hesitate.

Lovers of romance will delight in the culinary art of the master chefs at the Proménáda restaurant (Tržiště 31, Karlovy Vary, [www.hotel-promenada.cz](http://www.hotel-promenada.cz)). The restaurant is renowned for its classic French service, including the preparation of some dishes right before the guests' eyes. You can taste the noted wines from the family's own vineyards.



One of the renowned local restaurants is the family-run Embassy (Nová Louka 21, Karlovy Vary, [www.embassy.cz](http://www.embassy.cz)). This restaurant with a century of tradition is situated right in the centre of the spa colonnade. It offers an extensive wine cellar, simple quick meals, meals made to order and grilled specialties.

## Český Krumlov

This town in South Bohemia is an architectural gem and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here you will find the second largest castle complex in the Czech Republic.

The elegant Růže restaurant (Horní 154, Český Krumlov) offers cuisine inspired by the Renaissance period together

**Taste Becherovka – an herbal liqueur made from a 200-year-old secret recipe and the perfect souvenir.** The Jan Becher Museum (T. G. Masaryka 57, Karlovy Vary) offers an audiovisual exposition with texts in six languages. The tour includes a tasting of the bitter-sweet nectar.



All of the following hotels correspond to the exclusive five-star category and are located in the picturesque city centre. The ones in Prague differ mainly in their style, with some offering modern design and others historical architecture, while some of the hotels are steeped in a peaceful atmosphere. In all of these hotels, a high-quality dining experience is simply a given.

# Hotels

With Their Own Stories to Tell

## Prague

You will find an extensive database of quality hotels at [www.hotelstars.cz](http://www.hotelstars.cz).

Experience Art Nouveau at its finest at the **Hotel Paříž** – one of the most impressive Art Nouveau buildings in Prague (U Obecního domu 1, Prague 1, [www.hotel-paris.cz](http://www.hotel-paris.cz)). It was built in 1904 in the French style. The interior has a wide array of beautiful details typical of Art Nouveau design – colourful ceramic mosaics, mirrors and window panes of etched glass, ornamental wrought iron railings, and golden light fixtures. Services offered include the rental of a luxurious Bentley limousine.

You will feel a breeze from the Orient in the heart of Europe at the **Mandarin Oriental** (Nebovidská 459/1, Prague 1, [www.mandarinoriental.com/prague/](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/prague/)). Exclusive rooms combine Asian influences with the historical setting of a former monastery from the 14th century. Individual rooms offer stunning views of the abbey gardens and the ancient Lesser Town district of Prague. After an invigorating walk to see the sights, the hotel will refresh you with a delicious afternoon tea served in the monastery café, which is located right below a magnificent Baroque colonnade.

Top accommodations in the historical centre of the city are offered by the **Four Seasons** (Velešlavínova 2a/1098, Prague 1, [www.fourseasons.com/prague/](http://www.fourseasons.com/prague/)). This American

classic is presented in a unique complex of three historical buildings in the Baroque, Classicist and Neo-Renaissance styles. The hotel is wonderfully situated on the banks of the Vltava River near the Charles Bridge.

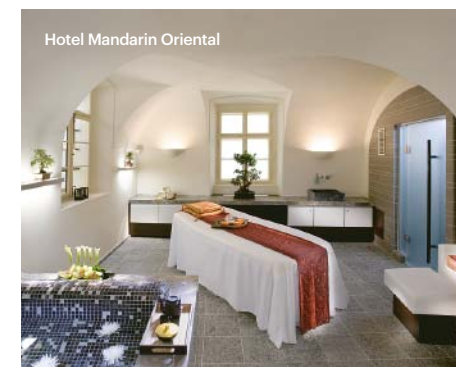
Part of the elegant **Hotel Paříž** is the Sarah Bernhardt French restaurant and the traditional Parisian-style Café de Paris. Both guarantee a great gastronomic experience and a pleasant atmosphere in stylish surroundings.



A view of the Vrtbovská Garden



Hotel Paříž



Hotel Mandarin Oriental

In the Hotel Mandarin Oriental is a former Renaissance chapel, today a superb spa with a glass floor which will completely relax your body and mind. The spa offers uniquely tailored holistic treatments and rituals inspired by healing practices from the West and the East.



# Chateau Lodgings in Grand Style



On the ground floor of the Art Deco Imperial Hotel (Na Poříčí 15, Prague 1, [www.hotel-imperial.cz](http://www.hotel-imperial.cz)), do not miss the elegant café. Everything served here is made onsite. The Art Deco interior has stunning colourful Art Nouveau ceramic mosaics on the walls.

The unique stories of composers are told by the **Aria Hotel** (Tržiště 9, Prague 1, [www.ariahotel.net](http://www.ariahotel.net)). Music lovers can enjoy rooms that are devoted either to a genre of music – jazz, opera, classical or contemporary – or to a particular musician. Directly behind the hotel you can relax in the oldest Baroque garden in Prague, the beautiful Vrtbovská Garden.

Experience the atmosphere of old Prague at the **Rocco Forte Augustine** (Letenská 12/33, Prague 1, [www.theaugustine.com](http://www.theaugustine.com)). It is located in a complex of seven historical buildings with UNESCO protected status in a popular part of the Lesser Town. The largest building was once the Augustinian Monastery of St. Thomas, from which this luxurious hotel takes its name. Several practising monks still live in a separate part of the complex. All the sleeping rooms offer spectacular views of the most beautiful historical monuments in Prague.

The posh boutique hotel **Alchemist Grand Hotel & Spa** (Tržiště 19, Prague 1, [www.alchymisthotel.com](http://www.alchymisthotel.com)) is located in a Baroque building with Renaissance elements from the 16th century. Although it is equipped with the most modern comforts, it exemplifies the charm of old



Prague. The rooms' interiors are equipped with exclusive furnishings and are decorated in vibrant colours and classic Italian décor.

The **Hotel Kempinski** (Hybernská 12, Prague 1, [www.kempinski.com/en/prague](http://www.kempinski.com/en/prague)) stands near the Powder Tower, just outside the gates of the old city. You may be surprised by its large garden with mature trees. The modern furnishings in the interior, which will delight even the most demanding guests, are tastefully set in the historical building.



If you are more attracted by the tranquillity and romance of a chateau environment than the bustle of a big city, stay at one of the country's charming chateaux. Accommodations of the highest quality in locations whose fabric is woven with great stories will provide you with an unforgettable experience.

## Chateau Herálec

Chateau Herálec is synonymous with spaciousness, exclusivity and creativity, because this is exactly how the rooms are provisioned. For your stay, you can choose from among suites that belonged to the former owners of the chateau or rooms named for paintings by Old Masters. The captivating history of the chateau blends harmoniously with modern elements. Let yourself be swept away and pampered by the true luxury of the rooms here. Distance from Prague: 110 km, 1 hour by car. (Herálec 1, [www.chateau-heralec.com](http://www.chateau-heralec.com))

## Chateau Zbiroh

The rooms of the Chateau Zbiroh with their antique furnishings evoke an exciting atmosphere shrouded in centuries' worth of history. Each room is original in terms of layout, dimensions, and the view from the windows. Allow your mind to wander several centuries back in time and you will feel like real aristocrats, relaxing in chambers which in their time played host to the true greats of European history. Distance from Prague: 60 km, 50 minutes by car. (Zbiroh 1, [www.hotel-chateau-zbiroh.com](http://www.hotel-chateau-zbiroh.com))



# When Golf Meets Wellness



## Top Resorts in the Czech Republic

## Prague and its Surroundings

You can find more information about Czech golf courses in the Golf Guide catalogue at [www.czechtourism.cz/golf/golf-guide/](http://www.czechtourism.cz/golf/golf-guide/).

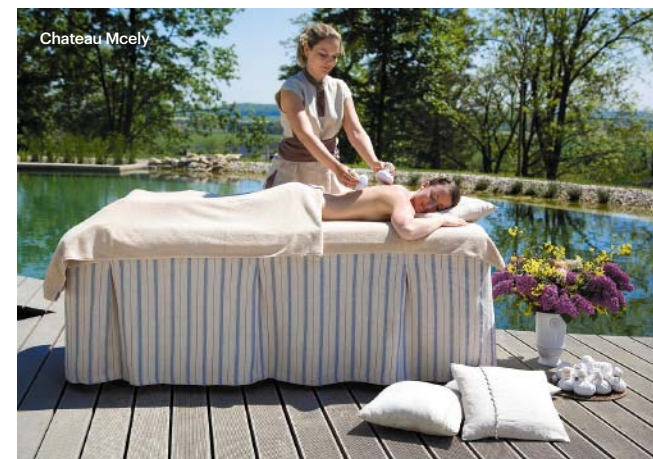
The Czech Republic is an ideal place in the heart of Europe for the luxurious relaxation of body and mind. For centuries, it has attracted visitors to its spas due to the extraordinarily rich natural healing resources (mineral water, mud, peat and gas) and also the health-promoting climate.

Let yourself be pampered by world-class professionals who will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience. For lovers of golf, an ideal combination is a relaxing stay at a spa and games of golf on one of the many top courses, which are located in the immediate vicinity of cities surrounded by beautiful nature.

### Wellness

You can experience relaxation in the centre of Prague at the **Buddha Bar Hotel** (Jakubská 8, Prague 1, [www.buddha-bar-hotel.cz](http://www.buddha-bar-hotel.cz)). In the top-flight wellness centre you will find a Spa Suite with a jacuzzi, steam room, fireplace and relaxation zone, promoting complete relaxation. Let yourself be pampered with a wide range of singular rituals and massages.

Less than an hour's drive from Prague, you will find yourself in an oasis of first-class relaxation and gastronomy at the **Chateau Mcely** (Mcely 61, [www.chateaumcely.com](http://www.chateaumcely.com)). The complex includes a chateau spa with therapeutic suites. The unique-ness of this resort lies in the combination of beautiful chateaux interiors and enchanting surroundings in the heart of nature. In an English park you can enjoy an outdoor hot tub, a sauna house and a natural swimming pond. The outdoor sauna will cleanse your body and mind, and the hot tub under the open sky, which is in operation year round, evokes a romantic atmosphere. The Chateau Mcely Spa was named Best Luxury Destination Spa 2012. Distance from Prague: 48 km, 50 minutes by car.



Chateau Mcely

### Golf

The most popular golf resort in the country, based on a survey of golfers, is the **Golf Resort Albatross** (Sokolská 162, Vysoký Újezd, [www.albatross.cz](http://www.albatross.cz)). Just outside Prague, you can try out your game on a championship course where the best European women golfers play during the Ladies European Tour. Distance from Prague: 24 km, 30 minutes by car.

The most sought-after golf course in the Czech Republic is the **Golf Resort Karlštejn** (Běleč 272, Liteň, [www.karlstejn-golf.cz](http://www.karlstejn-golf.cz)). The 27-hole course with breathtaking views of the majestic Karlštejn Castle is enhanced by mature greenery and the natural elements of the terrain. A ravine, two lakes and many sand traps create a very pleasant environment that will satisfy even the most demanding player. Distance from Prague: 60 km, one hour by car.

The country's largest course, the **Golf Resort Konopiště** (Tvoršovice 27, Benešov, [www.golf-konopiste.cz](http://www.golf-konopiste.cz)), is also located near Prague. Two 18-hole championship courses, attractively set in an undulating landscape surrounded by woods, feature numerous water hazards and large greens. It is near the Konopiště Castle. The charming resort also includes a picturesque mansion with a clubhouse,

reception area, restaurants and exclusive lodgings. Distance from Prague: 40 km, 45 minutes by car.

Considered to be highlight of the wellness centre of the Buddha Bar Hotel is the three-hour "Signature Soul Invigorating Ritual", during which exquisite care is devoted to the entire body with natural aroma products which relax muscular and emotional tension.

For more about spa and wellness go to [www.czechtourism.com/health-spa](http://www.czechtourism.com/health-spa).

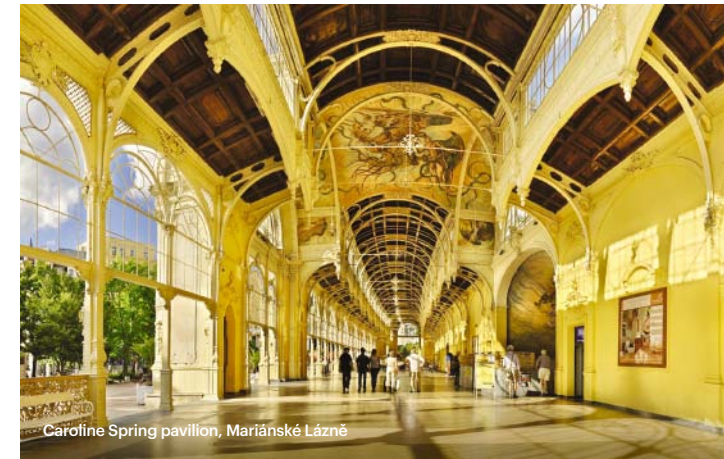


# Golf and Spas in West Bohemia

A visit to the excellent hotel restaurant of the Grandhotel Pupp in Karlovy Vary becomes a true gastronomic experience. Taste the local Old Bohemian specialties.



Grandhotel Pupp, Karlovy Vary



Caroline Spring pavilion, Mariánské Lázně

In the colonnade in Mariánské Lázně you will find a multimedia fountain. With its coloured lights, it has in its repertoire dozens of works by various musical artists. The fountain is fittingly called a water ballet of music and light.

Do you know the difference between wellness and medical wellness? With medical wellness at a spa resort, it is possible to consult with a physician and try out services and procedures using natural healing resources – a huge added value compared with wellness outside a spa environment. In the area of medical wellness, the Czech Republic offers a wide range of resorts of the highest quality.

kinds of saunas, pools, a mineral pool, Turkish bath, heated anatomical beds, a relaxation zone, aroma showers, and more.

## Golf

The **Astoria Golf Resort** (Cihelny 7, Karlovy Vary, [www.astoria-golf.com/en/home](http://www.astoria-golf.com/en/home)) is the work of top architects. The 18-hole golf course was designed by the world-famous Gary Player Design Company, mainly in its technical aspects. It is among the highest-quality and most comprehensive resorts in the Czech Republic and is nestled in the picturesque valley of the Teplá Stream. This Protected Landscape Area is simply ideal in terms of the weather conditions so necessary for golf.



Vřídlo fountain, Karlovy Vary

The oldest Czech golf club, the **Golf Resort Karlovy Vary** (Pražská 219, Karlovy Vary, [www.golfresort.cz](http://www.golfresort.cz)) was opened in 1904 and is set in the picturesque landscape of the Krušné Mountains. The resort offers the singular experience of staying in the “Hole in One” luxury suite with views of the golf course.

not only during the annual Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. The hotel is a place of total comfort and first-class service. It offers comprehensive spa care and relaxation programmes. Targeted care with medical supervision can be found at the **Hotel Carlsbad Plaza** (Mariánskolázeňská 23, Karlovy Vary, [www.carlsbad-plaza.com](http://www.carlsbad-plaza.com)). Its Wellnessland, with an area of 3,000 square metres, is conceived as a quiet lane of the old spa town of Carlsbad. Total regeneration of body and spirit is ensured by seven

## Karlovy Vary

### Wellness

The epitome of a spa experience can be enjoyed at the **Grandhotel Pupp** (Mírové náměstí 2, Karlovy Vary, [www.pupp.cz](http://www.pupp.cz)), which for three centuries has been the symbol of Karlovy Vary. In the course of its long history, thousands of internationally prominent personalities have stayed here, from crowned royalty and artists to stars of the silver screen, who come here



Hotel Esplanade, Mariánské Lázně



Royal Golf Club, Mariánské Lázně

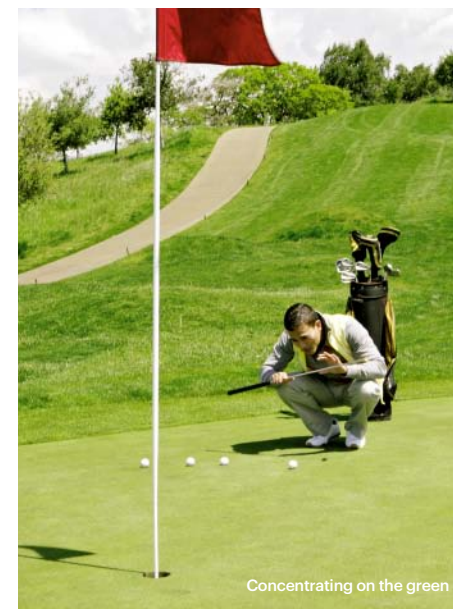
## Mariánské Lázně

### Wellness

The most opulent hotel in Mariánské Lázně, the **Hotel Esplanade Spa & Golf Resort** (Karlovarská 438, Mariánské Lázně, [www.esplanade-marienbad.cz](http://www.esplanade-marienbad.cz)), was built in the middle of a quiet forest park with a singular view of the entire city. In the Spa & Wellness Centre you can choose from a range of therapeutic treatments and relaxation and slimming programmes according to individual requirements. Favourites are massages, paraffin and mud wraps, electrotherapy, whirlpool baths, and mineral and carbonic baths.

Just a 5-minute walk from the Hotel Esplanade is the **Royal Golf Club Mariánské Lázně** (Mariánské Lázně 582, Mariánské Lázně, [www.golfml.cz](http://www.golfml.cz)). In 1905,

operation of the golf course was ceremonially inaugurated by the British monarch Edward VII, who also became the first founding member. Although the 18-hole course is mostly flat, it offers a number of hazards that demand a precise technical game. It affords relaxing views of the outlying countryside and is surrounded by mature evergreen forests. It provides the ideal natural scenery for relaxation of the mind.



Concentrating on the green





# Wedding Luxury

in the Czech  
Republic



Immerse yourselves in the world of romantic weddings in the Czech Republic. Make your dream come true in one of the most romantic cities in the world.

Prague and the Czech Republic have been a wedding destination for international clients for more than 15 years. There is a large variety of romantic, elegant, extravagant and casual as well as ultra-luxurious and premium locations that will help to create the experience of a lifetime. Even the most demanding clients can find a set-up that would not only meet but exceed their expectations. There are English-speaking officiators and priests available to perform weddings; the other option is a Czech-speaking officiator or priest with an interpreter.

#### Top locations and settings in Prague

**St. Thomas or St. Nicholas Church** are our top recommendations for exceptional church settings where the bride and the groom can begin their journey through life together, followed by a private boat tour with champagne and dinner at one of the restaurants or hotels with grand Prague views of

the Charles Bridge and the Vltava River.

**Old Town Hall** is a traditional venue with a very convenient location for couples who prefer a civil ceremony. More demanding clients tend to choose exclusive locations such as **rooftop suites of premium hotels**, which provide complete privacy and exclusive views of the Vltava River, Prague Castle and the Charles Bridge.

Another amazing setting is the exceptional **Chateau Troja** followed by a boat trip to the centre of Prague and dinner at one of the romantic restaurants of old Prague. Consider a ceremony in the wonderful **Prague Castle gardens**, with a string quartet completing the atmosphere, followed by champagne cocktails and fine canapés. There is a wide range of beautiful venues for either a small dinner or a larger reception for 30, 50 or 100 + guests.

#### Legalities

The paperwork for international clients is manageable even without a wedding planner. Of course it is also possible to arrange all the legal matters with the help of various websites and through the Czech Embassy.

**A general overview of what is needed:** a birth certificate, a “no impediment to marry” document, issued by the register office in your home country, and a divorce decree if you are divorced. Usually the bride and groom have to be in the country two to three working days before the wedding.

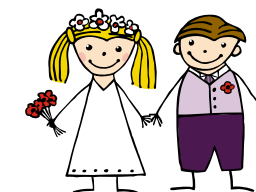
It is advised to start preparing the legal paperwork six months prior to the wedding day. Of course it is also possible to organize something at the last minute. And nowadays there is another option: The Czech Republic has become a very popular place for **symbolic weddings**, where the couple saves the money, time and energy related to collecting legal paperwork by doing this in their home country.

A unique transport experience. Since old and historical have again become very trendy, you can provide your guests with an amazing experience by using a historical tram for a private ride around Prague, either purely for sightseeing or combining a sightseeing tour with transport to your wedding destination.

**Top locations and venues outside of Prague:** Český Krumlov, Hluboká nad Vltavou, Karlštejn, Konopiště, Kutná Hora.

Go to the new e-book for more information about weddings in Prague. The lite version is free and will show you why the Czech Republic has become such a great wedding destination over the past 15 years, [www.pragueweddings.com](http://www.pragueweddings.com)

This chapter was prepared in cooperation with Prague Weddings.







# Easy as 1-2-3

Global Blue's Tax Free Shopping service saves you money when you shop in over 270,000 stores across the world, as it allows you to buy items without paying the tax on them. To claim the VAT/GST back when you bring your purchases home, just follow the simple steps below.



## 1. GET IT

Once you've found that perfect item, remember to ask the shop staff for a Tax Free Form when you're paying for it.



## 2. STAMP IT

When you're leaving the country to head home or to continue your journey, take your purchases, receipt and passport to the customs desk to get your Tax Free Form stamped. If you're travelling on to another EU country, get the stamp on your Tax Free Form at your final point of departure from the EU.



## 3. CASH IT

Finally, show your stamped Tax Free Form, passport and credit card to our staff at Global Blue Customer Services or one of our partner refund points and they'll issue your refund immediately. You can either get the refund put back on your card, or you can collect it in cash.

Spend a minimum of 2001 CZK, and save up to 14% of the purchase price

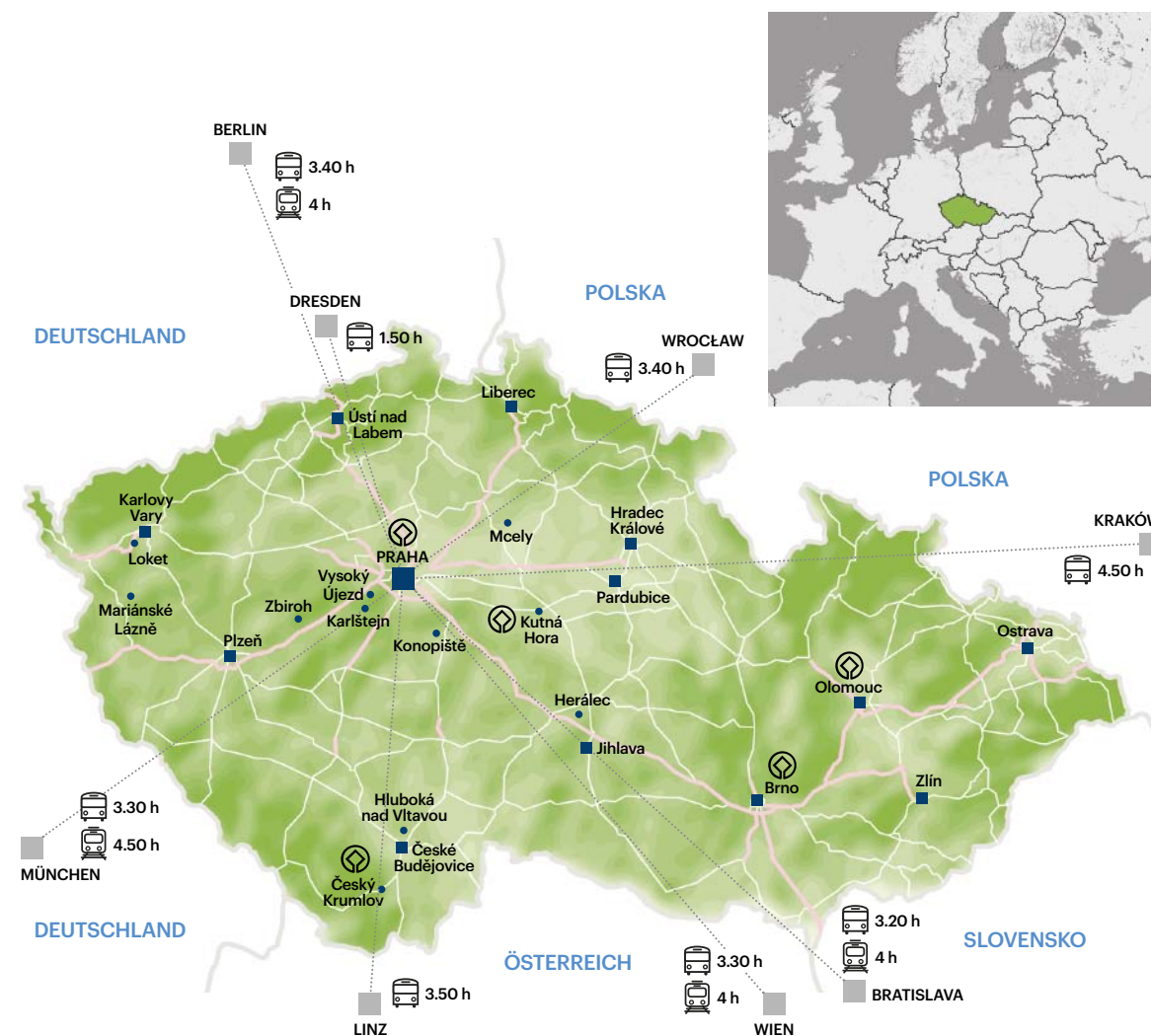
The final refund you receive will consist of the VAT total, minus an administration fee.

Please observe that at some airports an additional fixed fee will be charged should you require an Immediate Refund in cash.

Contact:

[taxfree@global-blue.com](mailto:taxfree@global-blue.com)

+421 232 111 111



### Luxury Holidays in the Czech Republic

#### Published by CzechTourism

CzechTourism, Vinohradská 46, 120 41 Praha 2

[info@czechtourism.com](mailto:info@czechtourism.com)

[www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)

Prague 2013, 2nd edition ©

Text: Ivona Bromová

Translation: Mimi Fronczak Rogers

Photographs: Ladislav Renner, PragueWeddings.com,

Thinkstock, MIP Group, Chateau Mělník, CzechTourism

Design, print: Vydavatelství MCU, [www.mcumedia.cz](http://www.mcumedia.cz)

All information is offered without guarantee, despite careful research.

#### [www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)

The official tourist presentation of the Czech Republic

ISBN: 978-80-87824-42-9



VIP  
Club Service  
**CONTINENTAL**

## PRAGUE AIRPORT OFFERS YOU THE BEST VIP SERVICE IN EUROPE!

- ❑ you don't have to worry about anything - we will arrange your check-in
- ❑ we will take you to the airport by limousine free of charge
- ❑ luxury lounge with all-inclusive refreshments only for you
- ❑ you only have to be at the airport 45 minutes before departure
- ❑ a limousine will take you all the way to the airplane

Don't hesitate and order VIP Service Club CONTINENTAL at Václav Havel Airport Prague.

+420 220 114 490  
vip.service@prg.aero



[www.czechairlines.com](http://www.czechairlines.com)

## Enjoy the unique travel experience

Experience a comfort of the Czech Airlines Business Class. Comfortable seats and on board service brings you unique travel experience.

Book now at [czechairlines.com](http://czechairlines.com)

