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Global Education Office  
Reves Center for International Studies  
The College of William & Mary

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# PRAGUE SUMMER HANDBOOK

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## William & Mary Prague 2019

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This handbook offers guidelines that we hope you will find useful in making your preparations and while studying in Prague. Please read the handbook carefully before your departure and **bring it with you** to the Czech Republic, either as a paper or email copy. The program policies are included, along with lists of important items to bring with you, tips for handling your money, and precautions for safeguarding your health and belongings. In an effort to serve you best, the material in this handbook is edited each year and contains the latest information available to assist you in preparing for your trip. While we do our best to provide you with the most accurate information, inevitably some changes may take place and we will need to make adjustments. Your program director and the Global Education Office Advisor at the Reves Center will keep you informed of any changes.

## Handy Information

### SUMMER HOLIDAYS AND EVENTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Date	Holiday	Description
May 8	Liberation Day	Celebration commemorating the end of the European part of WWII
Early June	Prague Church Night	Nearly 150 churches are open for free tours, including areas of the churches that are normally closed to the public
Mid June	Prague Museum Night	Most museums in Prague open for free from 7pm to 1am to offer visitors views of exhibitions by night

### AVERAGE MIN/MAX TEMPERATURES IN PRAGUE (°F)

January	February	March	April	May	June
23/35	29/41	33/47	39/57	47/67	52/71
July	August	September	October	November	December
56/75	55/76	49/65	42/56	33/43	27/36

### TIME ZONE COMPARISON: PRAGUE IS 6 HOURS AHEAD OF VIRGINIA DURING SUMMER

Pacific (US)	Mountain (US)	Central (US)	Eastern (US)	Prague, CZ
5:00am	6:00am	7:00am	8:00am	2:00 pm (14:00)
1:00pm	2:00pm	3:00pm	4:00pm	10:00 pm (22:00)
9:00pm	10:00pm	11:00pm	Midnight	6:00 am (next day)

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# Overview, Dates, and Money

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## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **Fees:** \$5,600
- **Program Director:** Professor Keith Johnson, Lecturer of English (kljohnson@wm.edu)
- **Accommodations:** Students live in one of Charles University's student dorms, close to Prague Castle. Students are housed in double rooms in dorm-style suites and have access to some cooking facilities. Breakfasts are included at the dorm. Students will also be given meal vouchers for lunch M-F that can be used at cafes and shops near CU. Students are responsible for their other meals.
- **Transportation:** You will get a pass that is valid on any metro, tram, or bus in the Prague Municipal Transit system for the duration of your stay. Round trip airfare to the Czech Republic is not included.

## PROGRAM DATES

- Arrive on May 22, 2019
- Depart June 30, 2019

## SPRING ONE CREDIT COURSE

Students will be automatically enrolled in a one credit pre-course that will take place after Spring Break. During this course, we will answer questions and describe what to expect and how to prepare for your program.

## MONEY

*A note on currency: Regardless of the level of financial resources you may have available for your period of study abroad, all students share the same need to have quick access to their funds and, at the same time, to have their money protected against loss. The currency of the Czech Republic is the Czech Koruna (and exchanges to the US dollar at a rate of \$1 US = 22.53 Czech korunas (CZK) or 1 CZK = \$0.04 USD (as of November 2018). You can check the current exchange rates on the web at <http://www.xe.com/ucc> or in the financial section of a large city newspaper.*



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# Visa Information and Budgeting

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## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

### Passport

- You should apply as early as possible before departure to secure your passport through a Passport Agency (found in major cities), a local issuing office, a Federal or State Court House, or a Class I Post Office.  
Start the process early so that there will be plenty of time to resolve any problems that may arise. If you will be using your current passport, make sure that it is good for six months after your return to the U.S. If it is not, you will need to renew it.
- Guidelines on renewing your passport or applying for a new one can be found at:  
<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html>



### Visa

- No visa is required for summer study in the Czech Republic for US Citizens. Non-US citizens should consult the foreign ministry of their home government for visa requirements for the Czech Republic.

## BUDGET

- Your budget for incidental expenses will depend on your personal taste and the amount of independent travel you intend to do before or after the program. For basic expenditures in Prague, such as lunch and dinner, we recommend that you budget approximately \$200 per week, plus extra money for shopping and traveling. It is probably possible to live for considerably less than this, but there is lots to do in Prague and you should allow yourself funds to take advantage of the city's offerings. Naturally, if you plan to do a significant amount of shopping and/or traveling, you should budget accordingly. In 2012, students reported spending \$500-\$1,500 throughout their time in Prague depending on personal taste and the amount of extra travel. The average budget for students was \$750.
- We also recommend that you buy a Czech phrasebook that will help you get around on your own.

# Study Abroad Program Worksheet for Prague (1 USD = 21 CZK)

Expenses:	Amount:	When due:	Paid to W&M?	Paid out of pocket?
Program Fee	\$5600	Deposit March 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Balance April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yes	
Airfare	\$1300			Yes
Board ( Only breakfast and some lunch included in program fee)	\$500			Yes
Study Abroad Application fee	\$75		Yes	
Visa, passport, photos	N/A	Prior to beginning of program		Yes
Books & supplies	\$100			Yes
Misc./Personal	\$600			Yes
Total	\$8,175			

	Items	Average Price	Price Range
Eating	Meal, Inexpensive Restaurant	\$ 5.20	\$4.68 - \$6.24
	Combo Meal at McDonalds or Similar	\$5.90	\$5.20 - \$6.76
	Coke/Pepsi (0.33 liter can)	\$1.72	
	Water(1.5 liter bottle)	\$0.78	\$0.52 - \$0.78
	Milk (regular), 1 liter	\$0.88	\$0.78 - \$1.04
	Coffee and Cake in Central Cafe	\$4.92	
Living	Cinema, International Release, 1 Seat	\$8.32	
	1 min. of Prepaid Mobile Tariff Local (No Discounts or Plans)	\$0.26	
Traveling	Transportation Methods	Average Price	
	One-way Ticket (Local Transportation)	\$ 1.66	
	Monthly Pass (Student)	\$ 12.79	
	Taxi Rates	Taxi Start: \$2.08 Taxi 1km: \$1.35 Taxi 1hour Waiting: \$18.73	



### How will your program be funded?

Sources:	Amount:	When Available:
Scholarship(s)		Varies by deadline, Reves scholarships will reduce your total balance due. You will find out if you've been awarded a Reves scholarship by the end of February.
Financial Aid (Loans, grants, through W&M)		First day of classes on campus or the first day of the summer program, whichever is LATER.
Savings		
Parental/Guardian support		
Other		
Total		



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# Packing

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## PACKING TIPS

### General

- Many items you need can be purchased once you've arrived at your destination. For example, bring travel-sized toiletries to keep your bags light, and purchase full-sized items once you've arrived.
- Required Textbooks
- Do not bring any items of sentimental value that you couldn't bear to lose.

### Luggage

- **Pack only what you can carry by yourself up 2-3 flights of stairs, or walk with for relatively long distances.** A wheeled duffle bag or suitcase plus a generous tote or backpack for weekend travel should suffice. Returning students recommend that your carry-on be a backpack rather than a handheld bag if you plan to do any extra traveling.
- Do not pack valuables in your checked luggage.
- Put address labels and contact information inside and outside each piece of luggage.
- Pack medications in your carry-on luggage.
- Pack all sharp objects securely in your checked baggage.
- Pack all liquids in plastic bags to avoid leakage during travel.
- Place your camera in your carry-on. If you take film, carry it in a lead-lined travel pouch (available at camera stores).
- Put TSA-approved locks on all of your luggage so that it can be opened without the lock or bag being destroyed.

### Clothes

- Bring easy care clothing items that are lightweight, drip dry, and wrinkle-proof, such as knits, permanent press, and cotton clothes. Dark colors are more practical than light, as they do not show dirt as easily.
- Pack clothes you can mix and match so as to give your wardrobe as much variety without having to pack as much.
- Only bring clothes you can imagine wearing often.
- Bring clothes that you can layer for various temperatures.
- Do not bring clothes that immediately mark you as 'foreign' – avoid items with obvious phrases in English, or other symbols that will immediately mark your outsider status.
- Roll clothes instead of folding them; you will fit more in the bag, and have fewer wrinkles upon arrival.

### Gifts

- Students often find that there are people they want to give gifts to at the end of their stay. Try to think of things that are unlikely to be available in the Czech Republic: items made in your home region, calendars or books with photos of America's outstanding features (wildlife, national parks, plantations, cities, and so on), William & Mary paraphernalia, and the like.

*For more tips, please consult the Summer Study Abroad Manual, as well as the "Know Before You Go" section of this handbook.*



### AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON ELECTRICITY IN PRAGUE

Electricity in the Czech Republic is 220 volts, 50/60 cycle alternating current (AC). For comparison, in the United States it is 110 volts, 60 cycle AC current.

If you plan on using your own 110-volt appliances, you will need a voltage converter, unless your appliance is designed to also work with 220 volts electricity (dual voltage). For example, most laptop and camera chargers are designed to work both at 110 and 220 volts. **Plugging in an appliance that is not designed to run on 230/240 volts electricity without using voltage converter will most likely kill it and may cause fire!**

Regardless of voltage, if your appliance has flat prongs, you will need a plug adapter: Czech sockets are designed to accept round prongs. Do get one before your leave!

As a matter of fact, Czech plugs can be of two different types. Some sockets will take in the plugs with large prongs only, some other will take in the ones with small prongs (more common for small appliances; large prongs are used for demanding appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines). Regardless of prong size, **the outlets all produce 220 volts!**



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## Traveling to Prague

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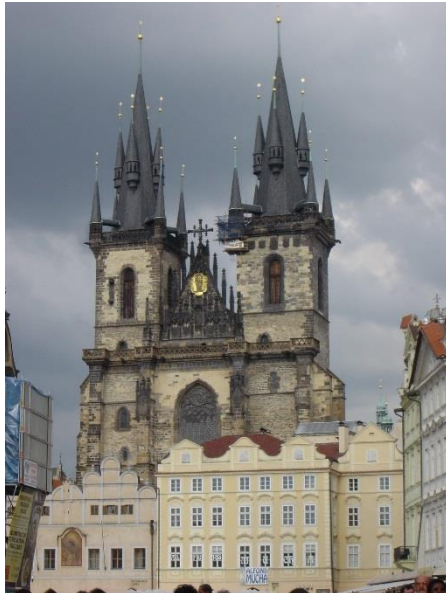
**NOTE:** You are responsible for your own travel arrangements to and from Prague

### **AIRPORT PICK-UP**

You are responsible for your flight arrangements to and from Prague. You will be met at the airport in Prague and taken to your accommodation, often by taxi. Please plan to arrive on the afternoon of May 22. As flights from the U.S. to Europe are overnight, this means leaving the U.S. on the evening of May 21.

It is advised that students travel in pairs, if not larger groups. Use the Blackboard site and share flight information, or plan travel arrangements during the one-credit course.

Students will meet with Charles University staff for an orientation and to receive a packet of information. Staff will also conduct a tour of campus.



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## Coursework

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A list of textbook requirements and syllabi will be distributed in advance of the program. For more information, contact the program director. The host institution is Prague's historic Charles University. At the University, students have computer and internet access.

**Charles University** in Prague was founded in 1348 and is one of the world's oldest universities. Today it has 17 faculties (14 in Prague, 2 in Hradec Králové and 1 in Plzeň), 3 university institutes, 6 further centres for educational, scientific, research, development and other activities or for provision of information services, 5 university-wide special facilities and the Rectorate as the administrative



centre of the whole university. The university has more than 7,500 employees, 4,000 of these being academic and research staff. Over 51,000 students are studying at CU (which is roughly a sixth of all students in the Czech Republic), in more than 300 accredited degree programmes and 660 study disciplines. More than 18,000 are studying in bachelor's programmes, 25,000 in master's programmes and more than 7,000 in doctoral programmes. Over 6,000 students are from abroad. Various courses in lifelong learning programmes organised by CU attract more than 15,000 people each year.

The university is dedicated to international co-operation with prestigious educational and research institutions. CU has signed a total of 450 bilateral agreements and 190 international partnership agreements with foreign universities.

Charles University is one of the world's top universities, a fact that has been confirmed repeatedly by the international university rankings. In the Shanghai University's Academic Ranking of World Universities, which evaluates 2,000 universities, Charles University was placed in the top 300 out of the total of 17,000 universities and colleges. Charles University is therefore among the 2% of the best universities and the 100 top European universities. It is the only Czech institution of higher education to be placed in the published list of 500 universities. The university fared just as successfully in The Times THES ranking, being placed 229th.

## CLASSES AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY

Courses on this program focus on Czech language study and include:

Courses	
ENGL 380: Central European Modernism: Fiction, Poetry, and Film	
GBST 390/GOVT 391: Contemporary Central European Politics	
ARTH 252: Czech & European Art & Architecture	
HIST 299: The Habsburg Empire: A Political and Cultural History	
MDLL 360: (1 credit)*	<b>Czech Language</b> Instructor: Charles University Faculty *All students take this course

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## Excursions & Activities

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### OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

Program excursions will include weekend trips to the historic Czech town of Cesky Krumlov and other possible weekend excursions. Please refer your questions to the Program Director or Global Education Advisor.

The weekends are busy with group excursions and things do to in and around Prague. If you wish to travel in Europe, it is suggested you plan to do so AFTER the end of the program – make your flight arrangements accordingly.

### GUIDEBOOKS

Consider purchasing a travel guidebook prior to leaving the United States to help you make personal travel plans. These can be purchased at bookstores like Barnes & Noble, or online. Some guidebook publishers include:

- *Fodor's* (<http://www.fodors.com>)
- *Let's Go* (<http://www.letsgo.com>)
- *Lonely Planet* (<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>)
- *Rick Steves* ([http://www.ricksteves.com/books/update/update\\_menu.htm](http://www.ricksteves.com/books/update/update_menu.htm))
- Take a look at the online guide, "Prague in your Pocket":  
<http://www.inyourpocket.com/cr/city/prague.html>.



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# Housing and Meals

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## HOUSING

Accommodation will be in the Komenského dormitory at Charles University, close to Prague Castle. Students are housed in double rooms in dorm-style suites and have access to some cooking facilities. The rooms have Wi-Fi capability.

NOTE: In keeping with the policy of the W&M Office of Residence Life, the Reeves Center does not offer housing for the family of any students participating in W&M-sponsored study abroad programs. Also, family members or friends may not participate in any program activities or excursions. If you have family or friends who want to visit you while abroad it is recommended they do so after the completion of the program.

## MEALS

A light breakfast is provided in the dormitory. A lunch voucher for Monday-Fridays will be provided and can be used at cafes and shops near Charles University. Students are responsible for all other meals.



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# Communication

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## ONLINE

Our students have computer access at Charles University. Whether you take a laptop is entirely up to you, but do keep in mind the issues of security and baggage restrictions. And remember you will have to carry it yourself. **Charles University library is closed on the weekends** so you will NOT have access to those computers. If you want computer and internet access 7 days a week, it is best to bring your own laptop.

## LANDLINE PHONES

In order to use a public phone in Prague, you need a prepaid phone card, available at various stores. There are several types of international phone cards which allow you to call the U.S. inexpensively.

## CELL PHONES

The Reves Center provides all participants with a basic cell phone. There will be no charge for the cell phone itself and a limited number of minutes. Students will be responsible for minutes over the basic number of minutes supplied. Please note that it is the students' responsibility to keep their phones active until the end of the program, should the director need to contact them at short notice.

### PLACING INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALLS

See the "Handy Information" section for a time zone conversion chart before you call!

#### Calling Prague from the United States:

Dial 011 + 420 + Area Code (without initial zero) + Local Number

#### Calling the United States from Prague:

Dial 00-1+area code + phone number.

### Emergency Numbers

General Emergency: 112

Operators can speak English and German

Police: 158

Fire: 150

Ambulance: 155

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# Health & Safety

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## IMMUNIZATION

Although it is no longer necessary to have smallpox immunization to re-enter the USA after international travel and no special health precautions are necessary for travel to Central Europe, students are encouraged to consider updating standard immunizations against meningitis and tetanus. For current information concerning recommended protection against communicable diseases for those planning to travel abroad, you may check the Center for Disease Control's website at:

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/czech-republic.htm> If you prefer to talk to someone in person about the currently recommended immunizations, you can call Travel Health of Williamsburg at 757-220-9008 (located at 287 McLaws Circle), or consult with a physician in your area who has some expertise concerning immunizations for international travel.

## STAYING WELL/GETTING SICK

For the duration of the program, the Charles University support staff is always available to assist students in obtaining medical care. Useful information on preparing for medical emergencies before you go abroad is provided at <https://step.state.gov/step/>

Good health care is readily available in the Czech Republic and there are a number of English-speaking doctors in Prague. For minor concerns such as colds and stomach upsets, Czech pharmacists should be able to recommend treatments (provided you can get past the language barrier). **The International Clinic in Prague Town Center** is a good place to go. You can pay by credit card and then submit receipts to insurance company when you return home for reimbursement.

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## Travel & Country Information

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We encourage all students to research their study abroad destination. The State Department has important information available online. Be sure to read up on Czech history, culture, and current events before your arrival. Knowing as much as possible about where you are going will not only make you more comfortable during your time in the country, but will also allow you to talk more knowledgeably with your teachers and new friends.

We strongly recommend that you register your travel plans with the U.S. State Department at this website:

<https://step.state.gov/step/>

This will help the State Department contact you if there is a family emergency in the U.S., or if there is a crisis where you are traveling. On this website you can find information ranging from geographic and political descriptions of the country, to special health and safety announcements.

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# Prague

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**Old City Center Square**

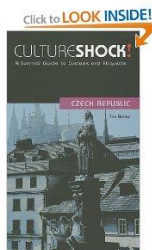
Prague is the capital of the Czech Republic. Geographically, Prague is situated on the Vltava River in central Bohemia. The city proper is home to about 1.3 million people, while its metropolitan area is estimated to have a population of over 1.9 million. Prague has been the political, cultural and economic center of the Czech state for more than 1,100 years. For many decades during the Gothic and Renaissance eras, Prague was the permanent seat of two Holy Roman Emperors and thus was also the capital of the Holy Roman Empire. The city has played a significant role in twentieth-century history, in both World Wars, and the post-war Communist era.

Since the fall of the Iron Curtain, Prague has become one of Europe's (and the world's) most popular tourist destinations. It is the sixth most-visited European city after London, Paris, Rome, Madrid and Berlin. Prague suffered considerably less damage during World War II than some other major cities in the region, allowing most of its historic architecture to stay true to form. It contains one of the world's most pristine and varied collections of architecture, from Art Nouveau to Baroque, Renaissance, Cubist, Gothic, Neo-Classical and ultra-modern.

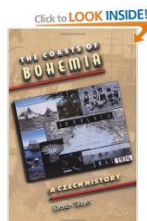
## For Fun: Light Reading and Movies

*Following are a few books about the Czech Republic. Check them out, or consider looking for other books to put you in a Czech Republic mood prior to – or during – your time abroad. Don't worry; you won't be tested on them!*

### BOOKS

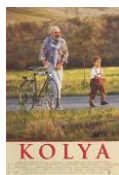


**CULTURE SHOCK!**  
**CZECH REPUBLIC:**  
**A SURVIVAL**  
**GUIDE TO**  
**CUSTOMS AND**  
**ETIQUETTE**  
By Tim Nollen



**THE COASTS OF**  
**BOHEMIA: A**  
**CZECH HISTORY**  
By Derek Sayer

### MOVIES



**KOLYA**



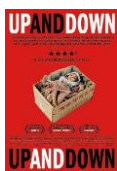
**DIVIDED**  
**WE FALL**



**SCHINDLER'S LIST**



**DARK**  
**BLUE**  
**WORLD**



**UP AND**  
**DOWN**



**LIDICE**



**BURNING**  
**BUSH**



**ANTHROPOID**

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## Frequently Asked Questions

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### **Will I need a visa?**

A visa for summer study in the Czech Republic is not required for American citizens. Citizens of other countries should check with their home government's foreign ministry.

### **What airport will I fly into? Do all W&M students travel together on the same flights?**

Please refer to the section in this handbook on "Traveling to Prague" for specific information. W&M students do not necessarily take the same flight. However if you wish to travel with other students you can arrange communicate through Blackboard or Facebook.

### **Can I arrive earlier or stay longer than the program dates?**

Yes, you may but you will be responsible for making your own accommodation arrangements. You may be able to stay in the housing provided during the program but arrangements will need to be made with the Charles University staff directly.

### **If my family or friends visit, may they stay with me?**

No, they will need to make their own arrangements for accommodations. Please advise your program director if you expect family or friends to visit you during the program.

### **Am I required to participate in all excursions provided by the program?**

Yes, unless your program director says otherwise. The excursions supplement the coursework and expand cultural learning.

### **Will I need to seek post approval for the courses I take?**

No, all of the courses offered in the W&M faculty-led summer programs have already been approved.

### **Will my grades be posted on my transcript?**

Yes, the grades you receive will be posted on your W&M transcript and will be calculated into your GPA.

### **Can I take a class pass/fail?**

No, this is not an option.

### **Do I need to take my own sheets and towels?**

You will be staying in the student dormitories at Charles University. Small towels and linens are provided. However, if you plan to travel before or after the program, you may want to bring your own towel and linens.

### **Will my study-abroad facility have a fitness center/gym for student use?**

There is a small gym in the dorm (for a small fee) and there are many others in Prague for student use.

**How much spending money will I need?**

That varies on your normal spending habits, especially in regards to eating meals out and how much shopping you like to do. Students reported spending between \$500-1,200 during the program. Most students reported spending around \$750, but again this depends on your personal spending habits. Former students DO NOT recommend traveler's checks. They recommend carrying some cash and your credit or debit card.





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# Know Before you Go

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## ADDITIONAL TIPS FROM PAST STUDENTS

### PLACES TO SEE IN AND NEAR PRAGUE

- [Old Town](#) (Staré Město) with its [Old Town Square](#)
- The [Astronomical Clock](#) (Orloj) on Old Town Square
- The picturesque [Charles Bridge](#) (Karlův Most)
- The vaulted Gothic [Old New Synagogue](#) (Staronová Synagoga) of 1270.
- [New Town](#) (Nové město) with its busy and historic [Wenceslas Square](#)
- [Malá Strana](#) (Lesser Quarter) with its [Infant Jesus of Prague](#)
- [Prague Castle](#) (Pražský hrad - the largest castle in the world) with its [St. Vitus Cathedral](#)
- [Josefov](#) (the old Jewish quarter) with [Old Jewish Cemetery](#) and [Old New Synagogue](#)
- [Jan Žižka](#) equestrian statue in Vítkov Park, Žižkov - Prague 3.
- The [Lennon Wall](#)
- [Vinohrady](#), a slightly quarter in the centre
- [Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague](#) - huge collections of glass, furniture, textile, toys, Art Nouveau, Cubism, Art Deco and so on.
- The museum of the [Heydrich assassination](#) in the crypt of the [Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius](#)
- [National Museum](#)

### TRAVEL

- Do not go out alone at night. Always travel in a small group.
- When you arrive you will receive transportation passes for the length of your stay.

### LIVING

- “The location was great. The Kolej really grew on us – nice workers, well-stocked breakfast, and rooms cleaned daily.”
- There is a small gym in the dorm, available for a small fee.
- If you are ill, you can go to the International Clinic in Prague town center. You can pay by credit card and submit the receipts to your insurance company when you return to the US.

### MONEY

- You will use more cash than you think. Many places do not accept debit or credit cards, and constant cash withdrawals can be expensive, so come prepared.
- Be sure to call your bank and put a travel notice on your debit AND credit cards. Otherwise, purchases and withdrawals may be declined due to suspected fraud.
- Discuss with your bank the fees associated with international transactions and withdrawals. The bank may be able to inform you of a partner bank in the Czech Republic that you can use to withdraw cash and avoid fees.
- If you travel on your own to Poland, there are many money exchange places (called *Kantors* in Polish) around Krakow that do small currency exchanges. Another option (and perhaps a better one) is to stick with withdrawing money

from an ATM. One place to exchange money in Prague is behind the Pohorelec tram stop next to 1001 Souvenirs.

### **PACKING SMART**

- A good way to keep a copy of your passport “with you” at all times is to scan your passport and email it to yourself. Access to your passport, therefore, will be possible at any computer with internet access.
- Returning students recommend that your carry-on be a backpack rather than a handheld bag if you plan to do any extra traveling and for field trips.
- Weather in Central Europe can change quickly. In Prague, average summer temperatures range from the low 50s in the evenings to highs around 70 degrees during the day. Summer heat waves in the last few years have meant daytime temperatures in the upper 90s! Unexpected rain showers are not uncommon, so it is a good idea to bring a lightweight raincoat that you can keep in your backpack. Buildings generally will not be air-conditioned, so unfortunately you will need clothing for temperatures ranging from the 50s to the mid-80s. Everyday dress in Prague is more formal than it is on the average American college campus, so plan to dress accordingly if you hope to blend in.
- Bring a good pair of walking shoes.
- Prague is a major city and you should be able to find whatever you may need for daily living. Therefore, pack lightly!

### **COURSEWORK**

- The language barrier is tough, but the intensive language course is very helpful. Pay attention in that class if you want to stand a chance at getting around Prague.
- Classes were adapted well to learning alongside sites in Prague and throughout Central Europe.

### **PREPARE YOURSELF**

- Bring a flash drive. You will need them to use the printers at Charles University.
- You will be provided with various orientation materials, including city maps and transportation guides. There is also an online magazine, *Prague in Your Pocket*, which is a terrific source of attractions, events, and sites in Prague.
- All students will be given ID numbers during orientation, which will give you a Charles University student ID. You will then be given your own access code to the university computers. However, computer labs are not available on weekends or late at night. Plan accordingly.

### **CZECH CULTURE**

- Make friends with the local Czech residents; they are just as interested in you as you are in them. They are also great city tour guides! There are fewer Czech students on campus during the summer.
- Czechs are usually critical of politicians, but foreigners are not supposed to volunteer their opinion on Czech politics. If you want to speak about politics, remember to be neutral. For instance, don't get dragged into criticizing the former communists (or the communist regime) unless you are sure that this is not a controversial topic with the person you are talking to; remember that he or she might be one of the former or current communists. (Even now, one in five Czechs vote for the not-too-reformed Communist Party.)

- Czechs have, perhaps, a stronger sense of etiquette than Americans. Coughing or yawning without covering your mouth, spitting in public, littering, chewing gum when talking to another person, or not offering a seat to an older person or woman on public transit, etc. are considered impolite if not socially unacceptable.
- While tolerance is increasing in the Czech Republic, especially in relation to their more religious neighbors of Poland and Slovakia, caution should be taken in disclosing one's sexual orientation. However, Prague does have a present gay community, especially in relation to the rest of the country.
- Women are treated with particular respect. They command certain privileges in most workplaces and other situations. One is expected, both at the workplace and outside it, to open the door for a woman and let her enter first.
- NEVER put your feet on the furniture, whether in class, on the train, or anywhere else. It is considered very disrespectful.

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## Contact Information

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### GLOBAL EDUCATION OFFICE CONTACTS

You may call the Reves Center and its advisors at the numbers below between 8am and 5pm (Virginia time), Monday through Friday. In case of an emergency that falls outside of these times, please call William & Mary Campus Police at (757) 221-4596. Campus police will then forward your call to the correct person or office.

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# NOTES