

CZECHIA

The heart of Europe

Essential information you need to know about Czechia:

➤ Capital City: Prague

Prague is the capital and the longest city of Czechia. It is built on the Vltava River in central Bohemia. According to European statistics, it had 1.309.000 inhabitants in 2019. It is also called “Golden City” and the “Mother of cities”. Since 1992, the historians center of Prague has been included in UNESCO’s list of world heritage sites.

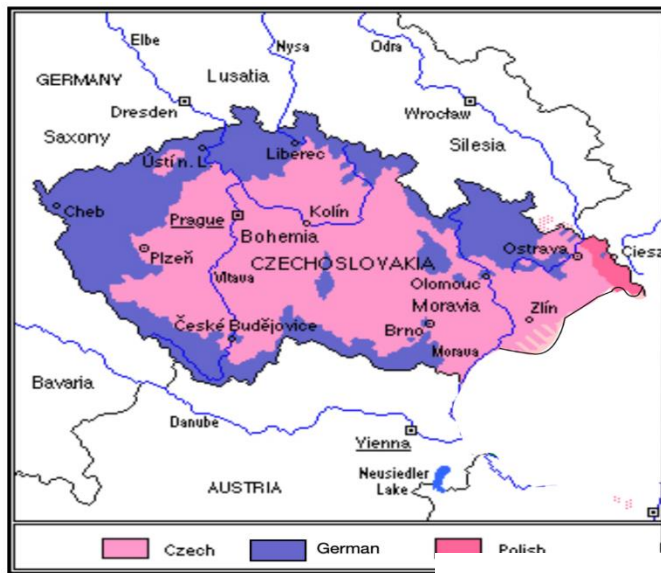
➤ Language: The Czech language is one of the west Slavic languages, along with Slovak, Polish and Sorbian. Slovak is spoken by most residents of Slovakia and by Czechs around the world.

➤ Currency: The national currency of Czechia is the Czech Koruna. Although Czechia is a member of the European Union, it has not adopted the euro as its currency. One euro is approximately equal to 24-25 korounas.



➤ Population: 10.88 million people

➤ Where is it located on the map?



➤ The history of the Czech Republic:

The Czech Republic has a rich history, with roots in Ancient Bohemia. After the Middle Ages, it became a major European power. In 1918, it was established as an independent state. It suffered Nazi occupation and soviet rule, finally gaining independence in 1989.

With the end of the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia in 1989 during the peaceful Velvet Revolution, Czechoslovakia was divided into two states in 1993. Slovakia and Czech Republic belong, along with other Central European Countries, to the visegrad group.

The Czech Republic is a presiding parliamentary democracy and a member state of the European Union since the 1st of May in 2004. It has held the presidency of the Union since the 1st of January in 2005.

➤ The tradition of the Czech Republic

People maintain their traditions and where folk costumes and festivals accompany them throughout the year. Although some customs are slowly being forgotten in the larger cities, they remain alive in the countryside of Bohemia and Moravia. Some of these are:

- Folk costumes: The locals wear colorful costumes with elaborate embroidery and characteristic hats. Women's costumes are decorated with lace and wide skirts.
- Festivals and Celebrations: In the Hana region, traditional agricultural festivals are celebrated, such as harvest celebrations with parades, dances and songs.
- Easter traditions: In the Hana region, as throughout the Czech Republic, traditional Easter customs are observed, such as egg decoration, and the "pomlázka"-a custom where boys gently whip girls with braided willow branches for good luck and health.

Why is the Czech Republic famous? The answer can only be its landmarks

1. Astronomical Clock

It is the most sought-after landmark in Prague due to its unique mechanism, which displays four different times, the movement of the sun, the phase of the Moon, the zodiac signs, and much more.

2. Prague Castle

The castle, the seat of kings, princes, emperors, and the current president is one of the most important landmarks in Prague. Built at the top of a large hill on the left bank of the Vltava River, it has stood proudly for centuries and continues to impress. The castle has three unique courtyards that you should definitely take the time to explore.

3. Coral Bridge

For 600 years, the Coral Bridge has impressed both locals and visitors to the Czech Republic. It is the oldest bridge in Prague, a masterpiece of medieval architecture that has been preserved to this day.



The Czech Republic has a very traditional cuisine with dishes characterized by the strong presence of sauces and root vegetables

1. Marinated fillet

This popular dish consists of braised meat covered in a thick, creamy sauce of radish and carrots. It is usually accompanied by cranberry sauce and whipped cream.

2. Goulash

It's pork stew with lots of onions, goulash is usually served with pasta or slices of dark bread. It is a common winter meal, and one of the most popular Czech dishes.

3. Damascene

It's strong plum spirit, similar to Serbian Rakija. It has a high alcohol content and is popular at traditional celebrations.

The Czech Republic hosts many festivals and events throughout the year, covering music, literature, food, history and traditions. Some of these are:

1.Karlovy Vary Film Festival

It is one of the most important film festivals in Europe and the largest in Central Europe, attracting celebrities and independent creators from all over the world.

2.Prague Beer Festival

It is the largest beer festival in the Czech Republic, with more than 100 local beers, traditional food and live music.



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