

# Vienna to Prague: Country Walks & Czech Castles

TREASURES OF AUSTRIA, SLOVAKIA, AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC



## TRIP DATES

2025

May 14-23, 2025

September 24-October 3, 2025

2026

May 13-22, 2026

September 2-11, 2026

September 23-October 2, 2026

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## Vienna to Prague

In the heart of Central Europe, we invite you into a walker's paradise of hilltop castles, deep woodlands, and gorgeous Baroque towns. From elegant Vienna to romantic Prague, we discover this realm on castle-to-castle hikes across poppy-filled meadows and through fern-blanketed forests. Between hikes, we'll explore the Renaissance villa at Lednice, medieval Telc, with its wedge-shaped Renaissance square, and magical Český Krumlov (with a private backstage tour of the town's 17th century theater). Our expert Trip Leaders bring us an insider's perspective and a journey through history, with a grand finale in magical Prague.

*“The itinerary was very well crafted, full of unexpected delights, and each venue was clearly thoughtfully planned to highlight the culture, history, and beauty of the area. Bravo! Zuzana and Jiri were a great team and went out of their way to make everyone feel special. It was great fun to spend the time with them and we will miss their infectious love of their country.”*

*Liz K., Madison, WI*



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# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### VIENNA, AUSTRIA

We meet in Vienna – the first of three great capitals on our route, and a spectacular place to spend more time for those who can arrive a few days early. We gather for an early afternoon meeting in our hotel lobby, then head out for a walking tour through the Baroque streetscapes. Vienna became the imperial residence of the Habsburgs in 1683 and it offers an eclectic feast of architectural styles, from High Baroque to Art Nouveau. The historic center, or Innere Stadt, is surprisingly compact and walkable. Of course, no Vienna tour is complete without a stop at one of its grand coffee houses for a creamy coffee and an exquisite piece of cake, so we'll add this to our walk. This evening we enjoy our Welcome Dinner. Overnight at the Steigenberger Hotel Herrenhof... BLD

Walking Details: 2 hours

## DAY 2

### DANUBE CRUISE / BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA / LEDNICE, CZECH REPUBLIC

A beautiful cruise along the great Danube River brings us right to the waterfront in the historic center of Bratislava. En route, we'll have views of Devin Castle, which we'll hike up to later this afternoon. Bratislava is linked to neighboring Vienna and Budapest to form the trio of great cities of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. On our walking tour, we explore the intact medieval center, graced with stately burgher's houses and nobles' palaces painted in soft pastels. Walking up to Michael's Gate, one of the city's original four medieval gates, we have great views from high above a tangle of narrow lanes that date to the 14th century. Departing the city, we head into the rural countryside for a hike up to the dramatic hilltop site of Devin, one of Slovakia's most picturesque castle ruins, set on a crag 600 feet above the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers. We'll explore the haunting walls and towers of this ruined castle and enjoy views that stretch into Austria and Hungary. Afterwards, we drive into Moravia, the Czech Republic's wine country, a landscape of woodlands interspersed with orchards and vineyards. We spend our afternoon walking the stately grounds of UNESCO-listed Lednice Castle, built by the Liechtenstein family as a summer residence. The garden is one of the largest formally designed landscapes in Europe, connecting with a twin chateau several miles away. Forested trails lead us to outlying pavilions, statues, chapels, and peaceful ponds where swans glide. Our boat ride across the chateau's lake brings us to the 18th century Arabian Minaret for fabulous views across the estate. Dinner and overnight at hotel in Lednice...BLD

Cruise Details: 1.5 hours

Walking Tour: 1 hour

Hiking Details: 1.5 hours



## TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

- Length:** 10 days  
**Arrive:** Vienna, Austria  
**Depart:** Prague, Czech Republic  
**Lodging:** 9 nights 3- and 4-star hotels and country inns  
**Meals:** All meals included except 1 dinner (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)  
**Activity:** Cultural Adventures, Walking  
**Trip Level:** 1 2+ 3 4 5 6  
A mix of moderate walks and hikes, 2-4 hours a day, van support

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy country walks to out-of-the-way hilltop castles and classic Baroque towns
- Visit three historic capitals: Vienna, Bratislava, and Prague
- Explore the Renaissance gem of Telč and Baroque city of Český Krumlov, a World Heritage Site
- Stay in historic hotels and boutique inns that reflect the local heritage
- Travel with our exuberant and expert Czech Trip Leaders, who love to share the best hikes and rich history of their country

# Itinerary (cont'd)



“Our guides made this trip extra special with their attentiveness to detail, their enthusiasm, and their delightful personalities.

The areas we were in were beautiful, accommodations and food very good, and the sights quite interesting.”

*Russ F., Sarasota, FL*



## DAY 3

### PALAVA NATURE RESERVE / MIKULOV / LEDNICE

This morning we'll visit the castle's fairytale interior, then head out for our first castle-to-castle hike, which brings us through the Palava Nature Reserve, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and a landscape of limestone outcrops and hardwood forests. Beginning below the ruined tower of a 10th century castle perched on a crag, we hike through mixed forests of beech, maple, linden, and oak and cross meadows overlooking Moravia's vineyards and villages. Our hike ends at another crag-top ruin, and we enjoy a picnic or a restaurant meal in Mikulov, a Moravian town with Baroque and Renaissance townhouses surrounding its main square. Mikulov is dominated by a huge Baroque castle with views out across wine country. Napoléon stayed in Mikulov's castle during his negotiations with the Austrians after the battle of Austerlitz, and Bismarck came here for the signing of a peace treaty with Austria. The town once had a flourishing Jewish population, especially in the mid-19th century, and we visit the town's medieval Jewish cemetery, one of the largest in eastern Europe, with its finely carved tombstones. Overnight in Lednice...BLD

Hiking Details: 7-8 miles, 3-4 hours

Driving Time: 1 hour

## DAY 4

### CASTLE ROSTEJN / TELC

This morning we drive west, stopping for a picnic lunch in the fairytale setting of the 14th century Castle Rostejn, a Gothic apparition that seems to rise straight up from the rock outcrop it is set upon. During part of the 15th century, the castle served as a hunting chateau for the feudal lords of the area, and there is a large game preserve established around it. We set off on trails that descend from the castle ramparts into enchanting pine forests and rolling meadows. Our trail brings us to the tiny village of Doupe, then further on a lakeside trail through fields of poppies, ending with a walk through the arched town gates of Telc, one of the best-preserved Renaissance towns in all of Europe, now a World Heritage Site. When a fire destroyed the town's wooden buildings in 1530, Telc was rebuilt from scratch, and is a perfectly preserved example of 16th century town planning. No building in Telc is less than 250 years old, giving us an extraordinary opportunity to step back into the past and experience the town as it would have been in Mozart's time. The wedge-shaped main square looks like a stage set, with Renaissance arcades, Gothic and Renaissance houses of subtle pastel colors, and absolutely striking architectural unity. At the northern end of the square, the 14th century chateau, originally Gothic, was given its Renaissance facade by Italian craftsmen in the 16th century. We enjoy dinner on a terrace right on the town square and an evening stroll to the small moat-like lakes that flank the town, where the red-tiled roofs are reflected in serene waters...BLD

Hiking Details: 6 miles, 2.5 hours

Driving Time: 3 hours

## DAY 5

### TELC CASTLE / SLAVONICE

The highlands of southern Moravia, a gentle rolling landscape of pastures and forests, became a “forbidden zone” between Austria and Czechoslovakia in the aftermath of World War II. Ironically, as a result, the region’s natural beauty has been well preserved. The area is great for hiking and the local folks can once again explore these woods for wild mushrooms (we may meet some mushroom gatherers as we hike). After a visit to the Telc Castle, we’ll begin our hike from Stare Mesto pod Landstejnem, about a 40-minute drive from Telc. As we hike, we see the remnants of fortifications that were meant to protect the Czech border on the eve of World War II; they proved useless when the Allied nations traded away much of eastern Europe in a futile attempt to appease Hitler. Our trail leads us through pine forests to Slavonice, a gem of a town with an intact medieval urban design, just a mile from the Austrian border. This Renaissance outpost was partially abandoned in the 18th century when the stagecoach road between Vienna and Prague was rerouted. The town fell into further disrepair during the Cold War. Today its Renaissance main square, with its unusual biblical paintings on the exteriors of houses, has been carefully restored. We enjoy a picnic lunch and return to Telc. Dinner tonight is at a cozy restaurant in town, serving local duck. Overnight at hotel...BLD



“Absolutely one of the best trips we have ever taken. Each day we thought that nothing could be as good, and then the next day was even better.”

*Jan K., Titusville NJ*



# Itinerary (cont'd)



“Zuzana was wonderful, a real treasure and a great pleasure to come to know. She was extremely articulate, with a broad knowledge base that included both distant and recent Czech history.”

*Jan K., Titusville, NJ*

Hiking Details: 5 miles, 4 hours

Driving Time: 1 hour

## DAY 6

### CESKY KRUMLOV

We cross into rural southern Bohemia, its winding roads lined by fruit trees, and visit the tiny medieval spa town of Trebon. Trebon's Renaissance chateau is where the infamous Petr Vok, last heir of the noble Rozmberk family and a comrade of Mad King Ludwig II, lived quite colorfully. We continue to Cesky Krumlov, a vision of Renaissance and Baroque houses lying on a double “S” curve on the Vltava River. We spend the evening on a walking tour of this unforgettable town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Like a miniature Prague, Cesky Krumlov is dominated by a grand castle that rises through five courtyards and ends in a huge watchtower. Only three families have lived in this castle since the Middle Ages: the Rozmberks, lords of the Renaissance era, the Eggenbergs, who built the castle's first theater in the 1680s, and the Schwarzenbergs, whose untold wealth helped to defeat Napoléon. Cesky Krumlov's castle is illuminated at night, providing an enchanting backdrop for wandering and café hopping. Overnight at hotel...BLD

Walking Details: 4 miles, 3 hours

Driving Time: 2 hours

## DAY 7

### SUMAVA FOREST / CESKY KRUMLOV

Today's hike takes place on the wooded trails of the Sumava (Bohemian) Forest, one of the last wilderness regions in central Europe and a natural border between the Czech Republic on one side and Germany and Austria on the other. Above town rises a Gothic castle that once belonged to the lords of the Rozmberk family. We'll hike across open fields with wonderful views of distant villages and continue to Rozmberk, a charming town built around the serpentine curves of the Vltava River. We end our hike at Vyssi Brod, a serene 13th century Cistercian monastery whose bright white walls contrast vividly with the forest greenery. This centuries-old pilgrimage site, with its Romanesque cloisters and courtyards, is being restored by returning monks after four decades of closure under Communism (Vyssi Brod was returned to the Cistercian order in 1991). After a late lunch in Rozmberk, we return to Cesky Krumlov in the late afternoon. Dinner is on your own tonight, and the Trip Leader will be happy to make recommendations. Want to eat like the locals? Try some fresh trout and a crisp pilsner—a great combination! Overnight at hotel... BL

Hiking Details: 6 miles, 3.5 hours

Driving Time: 1 hour

## DAY 8

### CESKY KRUMLOV

Virtually nothing has changed in Cesky Krumlov since medieval times except for the addition of electricity. Numerous sidewalk cafes liven the scene, and lovely old bridges cross and recross the Vltava River as it snakes through town. In Cesky Krumlov's castle complex is a fabulously intact 18th century Baroque theater, one of few in the world that retains so much original wardrobe, scenery, and props. We enjoy a private visit to this extraordinary theater and other parts of the castle this morning, with the afternoon free for independent exploration. Overnight at hotel...BLD



## DAY 9

### PRAGUE

A drive of about three hours brings us to Prague, the jewel of Bohemia and one of the world's most beautiful cities. Prague's golden age lasted from the 14th to the 18th centuries, and much of the city's present look was achieved in the 14th century during the long reign of Charles IV, the Holy Roman Emperor. Today, 600 years of glorious architecture, from Renaissance to Cubist, are on display in one of the few major cities to miraculously escape destruction by war.

We arrive in Prague and devote the afternoon to a wonderful walk through narrow Baroque lanes and over medieval stone bridges in this pedestrian-friendly city. We begin in Old Town, the city's Baroque medieval hub and a bustling center for mercantile activity since the 13th century. The Old Town Square is lined by brightly colored houses with Baroque facades. The square's most famous sight is the 15th century Astronomical Clock, which during its hourly chime presents a mechanical tableau of large, moving figures including 12 bowing Apostles and a skeletal Death with his hourglass. One of the "new"

*"It was a fabulous trip; we were able to see the beautiful countryside, share some time with the people (thanks to Zuzana), and learn so much about Czech culture and the history of this little known country."*

*Nancy M., Orleans, MA*



## Itinerary (cont'd)

“There was just the right mixture of walking and sightseeing. Everything was well thought out and planned.”

*Mary P., Bedford, NY*

additions to the square is the Jan Hus Monument, dedicated in 1915, with its inscription, “Truth Prevails.” In August, 1968, when the Soviets invaded Prague to end the nationalist movement known as the Prague Spring, protestors shrouded this huge statue in black drapes. The famous Velvet Revolution of 1989 bloodlessly brought down the Communist government and the democratic election of 1990 installed the late Vaclav Havel, dissident and playwright, as president. On our walk, we pass by the theater where Havel’s first plays were performed.

Another part of our afternoon walk passes through Prague’s Jewish ghetto, Josefov, which dates to medieval times and is now a quiet, middle-class residential quarter. Much of Josefov was demolished in the 19th century when the Jews were moved to another ghetto, but Europe’s oldest functioning

synagogue is still here, as is the poignant Old Jewish Cemetery, in use from the 15th century until 1787, with its crowded tumble of headstones. Under Nazi occupation in World War II, most of the 35,000 Jews living in Prague were deported or killed in concentration camps. We gather for our Farewell Dinner at a restaurant on the Vltava River with a beautiful view of the Prague Castle and Charles Bridge. Overnight at hotel...BLD

Walking Details: 3-4 miles, 3 hours

Driving Time: 3 hours

**DAY 10**

**DEPART**

Morning checkout and taxi transfer on your own to Prague’s airport for homeward-bound flights, or for other destinations in Europe...B





# Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

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## TRIP COST

**Prices are per person, valid through 2025**

\$5,795 (11-15 members)

\$6,295 (4-10 members)

Single supplement: \$785

*Please call for future years' pricing*

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

## TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- Accommodations in hotels and comfortable inns
- All meals included except 1 dinner as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- Ground transportation throughout the trip
- Sightseeing and entrance fees on group tours

## TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, airport/hotel transfers, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors; pre-trip expense of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance or passports; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, telephone calls, etc.).

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

## CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: [www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance)

# Arrival & Departure

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Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

If you have booked extra services after the trip, an Extra Services Confirmation will be sent with your Final Documents.

## ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Vienna, Austria

**Suggested Airport:** Vienna International Airport (VIE)

**Suggested Date & Time:** Day 1, prior to 11:00 am

**Meeting Place:** You will meet your Trip Leader in the lobby of our group hotel in Vienna at 2:00 pm on Day 1. Transfer from the airport is on your own. There are many ways to get from the Vienna Airport to the hotel, from using public transportation to arranging a private transfer. Public transportation is approximately EUR 19 per person and takes about 30 minutes. A private chauffeur service from Vienna International Airport to the hotel in Vienna is approximately EUR 30-100 (depending on the number of people) and takes 30 minutes.

If you have not visited Vienna before, there is much to do and we strongly recommend that you arrive early to extend your stay if that fits with your schedule. We do not book pre-tour nights at our group hotel ourselves, but you can feel free to book there directly at [hrewards.com](http://hrewards.com) or at numerous other hotels at the city has to offer.

## DEPARTURE

Prague, Czech Republic

**Suggested Airport:** Václav Havel Airport Prague (PRG)

**Suggested Date & Time:** Day 10, anytime

Hotel Paris checkout is at noon. If you haven't visited Prague before, we strongly recommend that you extend your stay for at least one extra night, as we only spend one short afternoon and evening there at the end of our trip. We are happy to book an extra hotel night for you at the Hotel Paris (please see our Extra Hotel Request Form for information).

Taxis are available from the Prague hotel to the airport for approximately \$30 per taxi and take about 30-45 minutes, depending on traffic. Your Trip Leader and hotel staff will assist with arranging taxi logistics.

## INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from the Czech Republic.

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at [www.exitotravel.com](http://www.exitotravel.com).

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

**Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip.** Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

# Trip Leaders

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Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information about our Trip Leaders, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on “Trip Leaders”: [www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/bratislava-prague-cultural-walking-tour](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/bratislava-prague-cultural-walking-tour)

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## JIRI ROHEL

Jiri Rohel, from the Czech Republic, has been a guide for WT since 2011. He holds a master’s degree in English and music and studied clarinet at a conservatory. Jiri loves mountain life and spent a month trekking in Nepal’s Annapurna range. He has also climbed to the summits of Mont Blanc in France, Mt. Elbrus in Russia, the Matterhorn in Switzerland, and the highest peaks in the Austrian Alps. Having grown up in the Czech Republic, Jiri can share his experience of living in Communist Czechoslovakia and the transition to life in today’s modern Czech Republic. When not leading trips, he enjoys spending time with his family, playing music with his dulcimer band, taking photographs, and being outside in nature, whether hiking, climbing, trekking, cycling, or skiing.



## ZUZANA SOCHOROVA

Zuzana Sochorova comes from the southeastern part of the Czech Republic, a region full of sunshine and vineyards, and has a degree in Economics and Marketing from the University in Ostrava. She loves her work as a guide and takes great delight in meeting new people and showing them the most beautiful and fascinating aspects of the Czech Republic. When not guiding or studying, Zuzana enjoys long walks with her dog, taking belly dancing lessons, and skiing.

“Zuzana really made the difference for all of us. A very competent, knowledgeable, kind, and personable leader and a credit to her country as well as Wilderness Travel.”

*Martha P, Inverness, CA*

“Jiri’s willingness to share his experience growing up in a communist Czechoslovakia and the transition to life in today’s Czech Republic added another dimension to our trip. His musical talents were also a wonderful addition to our group’s experience.”

*Kathleen C., Minneapolis, MN*

# Accommodations

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## STEIGENBERGER HOTEL HERRENHOF

*Vienna, Austria*

*Day 1 (1 night)*

The hotel's central location in the historic center of Vienna offers easy walking to restaurants, cafes, shops and sights. The Kohlmarkt and the Graben, Vienna's two most beautiful shopping districts, can be reached on foot and it's just a short walk to the Hofburg, State Opera, the parliament, and many other famous sights.



## HOTEL PRINCESS

*Lednice, Czech Republic*

*Days 2 to 3 (2 nights)*

This relatively new hotel enjoys a great location in Lednice, close to the castle, palace, and other monuments of this World Heritage Site. With just 14 spacious guest rooms and an inviting courtyard with fountain, it offers a cozy, peaceful ambiance.



## HOTELS IN TELC

*Telc, Czech Republic*

*Days 4 to 5 (2 nights)*

In Telc, we stay at one of the following properties:

### HOTEL U HRABENKY

Set in a converted 18th century building of charming Baroque architecture, the 16-room Hotel U Hrabenky ("House of the Countess") is just a two-minute walk from the stunning medieval square of Telc, a World Heritage Site of Renaissance-era gingerbread houses.

### HOTEL TELC

Located just steps from the main square in a quaint blue building stands Hotel Telc. Travelers are welcomed into a cozy lobby, and guest rooms are simple and comfortable. There is a nice breakfast buffet, and a lovely little cafe adjacent to the hotel—perfect for an afternoon coffee or tea. The hotel staff is kind and hospitable.



## HOTELS IN CESKY KRUMLOV

*Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic*  
*Days 6 to 8 (3 nights)*

In Cesky Krumlov, we stay at one of the following properties:

### HOTEL LATRAN

Formerly two burghers' houses dating back to the 15th century, this 16-room hotel is full of Old World charm and a perfect blend of the modern and historic. Each room is slightly different; some have traditional detailing, but all feature a spacious private bath with modern amenities. The Latran is in a great location, just inside the Old Town and walking distance to all the sights.

### KRCINUV DUM

This charming 12-room hotel is practically a historical monument itself in a town that is steeped in history. Dating back to the 14th century, the structure has lots of character, from the painted exterior walls to the spacious guestrooms that are nicely decorated with original furniture—a step back in time. The hotel is ideally located, right in the center of town and just a short walk from the main square and Cesky Krumlov castle.



### HOTEL PARIS

*Prague, Czech Republic*  
*Day 9 (1 night)*

With a Neo-Gothic exterior and elaborate Art Nouveau design elements, this beautifully restored and historic building has a wonderful location just a 5-minute walk to the Old Town Square and 10 minutes to the Charles Bridge. The hotel's 1930s-style Café de Paris is a great place to wind down at the end of the evening and provides an excellent perch for people watching.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *From Bratislava to Prague* webpage and click on “Accommodations.”

# Trip Details

## WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated a Level 2+ (Easy to Moderate) according to our trip grading system. You will need to be comfortable hiking 8 miles a day and being on your feet for up to 5 hours a day.

### Average Hiking Day

- 5 miles
- 3-4 hours

### Challenge Day

- Day 3: 7-8 miles, 3-4 hours; includes short, steep sections

## TERRAIN

This trip includes both easy hikes and walks, traversing across historic towns, through forest trails, and over gently rolling hillsides. You will need to be able to hike over sections that contain rocky steps, uneven surfaces, and occasionally downhill over loose scree. There are some tight staircases in the castles, and trails may become muddy and unstable with bad weather. While this is not a challenging trip, it is active and you will need to be able to keep up with the moderate but steady hiking pace of the group.

## GETTING IN SHAPE

We strongly urge you to train for your trip, as your enjoyment will be highly dependent on your level of fitness. The best training for a hike is to hike, especially over hills or rough terrain. Next best are running, swimming, bicycling, or other cardiovascular exercise. Stair climbing machines are excellent preparation for hiking uphill. Your feet should also be well prepared—make sure your hiking boots are sturdy, comfortable, and thoroughly broken-in.

## WEATHER

The weather in the Czech Republic and Slovakia in the summer is usually very mild and pleasant, with temperatures in the 60s°F and 70s°F during the day and in the 50s°F and 60s°F at night. Cool breezes and showers can occur at any time, so layers and raingear are recommended.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations are in small, charming hotels that have been selected for their character. While they are not the most luxurious options in the area, they are clean and comfortable and in the optimal locations. Since they are often in historic buildings, the rooms are not always of uniform or international size. Our leaders do their best to assign rooms in a fair way so that all participants experience an equal advantage throughout the trip as a whole. Single rooms can be requested but are not always available, due to the limited space in the hotels. If you prefer a single room, please make your request as early as possible.

## CUISINE

Lunches and dinners will be picnic-style, at local restaurants and cafes, and at the hotels. Please note that in Europe, the dinner hour is considerably later than what it is in the US. We do our best to secure early reservations for our groups, but most often the evening meal will be at 7:30 pm.

## TRANSPORTATION

Our bus will transport the group's luggage, so you only need to carry a daypack for items you need during the day (rain gear, sweater, camera, water bottle, etc.). Trip members are always free to skip a day's hike and travel to the next destination in the support vehicle (or remain at the hotel if we are not transferring that day).

HIKING DETAILS BY DAY				DRIVING DETAILS
DAY	HOURS	MILES	ELEV. GAIN/LOSS	HOURS
1	2 hours	city walking tour		
2	2.5 hours	7-8 miles		1.5 hour cruise
3	3-4 hours	7-8 miles		1 hour
4	2.5 hours	6 miles		3 hours
5	4 hours	5 miles		1 hour
6	3 hours	4 miles		2 hours
7	3.5 hours	6 miles		1 hour
8				
9	3 hours	3-4 miles		3 hours

AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Prague	34/25	39/27	48/32	57/37	66/46	73/54	75/54	75/55	68/48	57/41	45/41	37/28
Bratislava	37/26	41/28	51/34	62/41	71/50	71/56	81/59	80/59	71/52	60/42	47/35	38/29
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Prague	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.5	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.8	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.0
Bratislava	1.5	1.9	1.5	1.18	2.3	2.75	1.5	2.3	1.9	1.18	2.3	1.9

### CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Europe Manager or email us at [europa@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:europa@wildernesstravel.com).

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At [www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com), you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

### REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.



## WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

**Best Travel Specialists in the World:** *Conde Nast Traveler*, 2024, 4-time winner

**World's Best Tour Operators:** *Travel + Leisure*, 11-time winner

**Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips:** *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *USA Today*

**Trip of the Year:** *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

**50 Tours of a Lifetime:** *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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