

CZECH GASTRONOMY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Tchequie TOUR

DISCOVERING CZECH GASTRONOMY AND REGIONAL SPECIALITIES



DAY 1 – WEST BOHEMIA – FAMOUS LIQUORS AND WAFERS

We start the trip in the “spa triangle”. The town of **Karlovy Vary** is well-known for its mineral water springs, herbal liquor **Becherovka**, spa wafers and also the International Film Festival. After your arrival, you will go for a visit of **Jan Becher’s museum** which includes a presentation of the production of the liquor and a tasting. The second excursion of the day will be in the famous **Moser** glassworks. The visit includes a demonstration of glassblowing in the glass furnaces or a working process in the cutting room. Lunch will involve tasting the specialities of West Bohemia – *mixed salad made from vegetables and cheese (feta type), beef beer goulash served with Carlsbad dumplings/bread served with cheese (quark type) or jam.*

In the afternoon, you will take a walk along the thermal colonnade with a tasting of traditional **spa wafers**. Those who wish can also **taste the healing mineral water** directly from typical thermal fountains.

You will receive a welcome drink in the hotel – **sparkling wine Bohemia sekt**.

Overnight stay in Karlovy Vary, dinner – *a pickled sausage with onions (uto-penec), fried cheese, boiled potatoes, tartar sauce, apple strudel with nuts and raisins.*

SPECIAL PROGRAM/FOR ADDITIONAL COST

Beer lovers can stay in the hotel Chodovar with a beer spa near Karlovy Vary. It is a family hotel with a brewery, 2 spacious and elegant restaurants and beer baths. You can participate in a workshop of beer brewing or a tour of the Chodovar brewery.



DAY 2 – PLZEŇ – UNIQUE BEER (199 KM)

After breakfast, you will leave for **Plzeň** (Pilsen) where you will visit the famous **Czech Pilsner Urquell brewery – the biggest in the country**. You will discover the malting plant, brewhouses, bottling plant and will taste the non-filtered beer varieties which you can’t find elsewhere. Lunch is in the brewery restaurant, Na Spilce, located in the former fermentation cellar – *and consists of beef broth with noodles, stuffed turkey escalope, rice, homemade brioches with plum marmalade, 0,3 l beer and water.*

In the afternoon you will visit a glassworks for a demonstration of the Czech craft –production of crystal. On the way to Prague, you will stop off at **Karlštejn castle**, a former seat of Czech kings (mainly Charles IV). Surrounding forests used to be the King’s game reserve and even now, **game specialities** are served here. You will have a guided tour of the interior of the castle. Dinner will be in a local restaurant – **game menu**: *homemade wild-boar terrine, venison medallions with juniper, potato purée, sweet biscuits with raspberries and whipped cream.*

Overnight stay in Prague.



CZECH GASTRONOMY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

DAY 3 – PRAGUE TOUR – LOCAL PRAGUE HAM

In the morning you will take a tour of the historic Czech capital. You will discover **The Royal Route**, the exteriors of Prague Castle, Baroque quarter Mala Strana (Lesser Town), Charles Bridge, Old Town Square with its world famous Astronomical Clock. The tour will end up at the Powder Tower and Municipal House, where you will have lunch – **Prague Ham ("Pražská šunka")**, Czech speciality beef fillet with cream, dumplings and cranberries (svíčková)

OPTIONAL /IN ADDITION

- **cooking class** – learn to prepare traditional Czech dishes
- **beer brewing** – "U Medvídků" brewery, whole day activity
- **gastronomic dinner** in one of the best restaurants in Prague

In the afternoon you will visit the Research Institute of Brewing and Malting, where you can take a **brief tasting lesson, or you can visit a microbrewery and have a tasting there.** Instead of visiting

the Research Institute, it is possible to visit familial, historical or modern breweries. You will take a break in a **traditional café** to have coffee or tea and a dessert (**cream puff**) or a famous Czech open sandwich (chlebiček). Drinking coffee is a tradition dating back to the beginning of the 18th century, and it developed and expanded in the 20th century. Many traditional cafés herald from these days.

Dinner in medieval or folklore style restaurant in Prague's city centre. There will be a program of music, a medieval or folklore entertainment performance and dancing. Overnight stay in Prague.

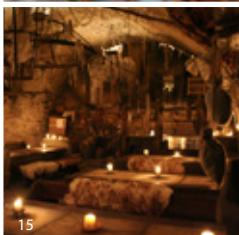


FOLKLORE EVENING MENU

- aperitif – Becherovka
- halušky (Slovakian gnocchi) with smoked meat and cabbage
- a mix of roasted meats, potatoes with cream
- potato balls and green beans with bacon
- pancake with fruits, ice cream and whipped cream
- unlimited consumption of beer / wine / non-alcoholic drinks

MEDIEVAL EVENING MENU

- cheese spread, herb butter, fresh bread, aperitif
- pancakes (caletky) and groats with mushrooms "KUBA"
- pork knuckle cooked with garlic and stout
- roasted potatoes or bread
- beef goulash with dumplings
- homemade cake
- 2 drinks (beer, wine, non-alcoholic beverages)



DAY 4 – SOUTH BOHEMIA – FISH SPECIALITIES AND CABBAGE MEALS (219 KM)

After breakfast, you will leave for South Bohemia which is a traditional fishing region with plenty of fairytale castles and ponds. During the visit of the lovely town **Třeboň**, well-known for its mud baths, you will take a walk alongside **the Rožmberk pond**, the biggest pond in the country. **The carp from Třeboň** uses the EU protected geographical indication.

For lunch, you can taste some fish specialities: *fish soup with croutons, pike fillet and grilled carp with sautéed cabbage with garlic, bacon and glazed shallots and a dessert of lavender cheesecake.*

In the afternoon, you will visit the **Romantic Hluboká castle** and discover its wealthy decorated interiors and wooden sculptures.

You will stay in **České Budějovice** which is the capital of this region and will have dinner in the city centre: *cabbage pancakes (zelňáky) or potato pancakes served with cabbage and smoked meat (cmunda po kaplicku-bramborák), dumplings with blueberries + glass of beer Budweiser Budvar comes from the local brewery.*

OR you can stay in **Český Krumlov** – a town on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Dinner would be in a medieval tavern – *bread with lard and crackling, smoked bacon, grilled trout served with stewed vegetables, blinis with cream and forest fruits + a glass of Eggenberg beer from the local brewery.*



CZECH GASTRONOMY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

DAY 5 – BOHEMIAN-MORAVIAN HIGHLIGHTS AND SOUTH MORAVIA – MEALS WITH GHERKINS AND MUSHROOMS (228 KM)



21

After breakfast, you will leave for **Jindřichův Hradec**, where you will take a ride in a **steam train**. Then you will continue by coach to Telč – a beautiful Renaissance town which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

For lunch, you will have a **mushroom-based menu** – *potato soup with mushrooms, baked pasta with bolete, plus brioche with vanilla custard.*

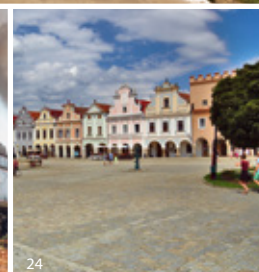
You will visit a splendid fairytale square which is surrounded by burgher houses with Renaissance and Baroque facades. Then you will journey to South Moravia, a wine and fruit-growing region where folklore and Christian traditions are still strong. On the excursion to the royal town **Znojmo**, you will discover the Rotunda of St. Catherine which is the oldest one of its kind. In Znojmo, there is also the largest network of underground passageways in the Czech Republic. The city is well-known for its **production of gherkins**. You will stay in a hotel surrounded by vineyards and equipped with a wine cellar. For dinner you will have a *selection of Czech cheese – eidam (Czech edam), niva (blue cheese) and marinated hermelín (camembert), plus striploin steak with Znojmo sauce, served with rice and pickles, apricot crumble and 0,2 l of local wine.*



22



23



24



25



26



27



28



29

SPECIAL PROGRAM/FOR ADDITIONAL COST

Pig slaughter festivity in Moravian Slovakia (Slovácko) You can take part in the production of pork delicacies. The evening banquet will consist of the tasting of such delicacies, a music group with cimbalom, dancers wearing tradition Moravian Slovak costumes, plus two free beverages (beer, wine, non-alcoholic beverage).



DAY 6 – SOUTH MORAVIA – WHITE WINE COUNTRY

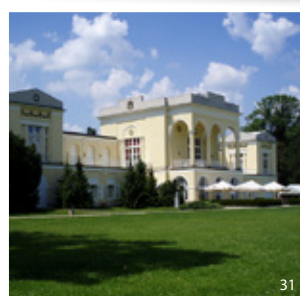
Visit of the **Lednice – Valtice** complex, also called the Garden of Europe, which is an UNESCO listed site. It is a vast area with grounds of about 200 km². In addition to two great castles, there are countless romantic buildings surrounded by a tangle of forest parks, channels, ponds and small lakes. There will be some **tasting of local wines from Valtice castle** – the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic. This collection includes the top 100 wines produced by local winemakers during the last years. You will have lunch in a stylish castle in the region. Menu: *cucumber salad, duck breast with raspberry sauce, potato gnocchi, Sacher or chocolate roulade.*

In the afternoon you will go on a guided tour of the historical centre of **Mikulov**. Its history is related to Napoleon and the Battle of the Three Emperors. Highlights include: the castle, the Dietrichstein Tomb and the Jewish ghetto. The most daring can hike up the Holy Hill, a famous pilgrimage site, before returning to the hotel.

For dinner you can try pork specialities: *pork blood soup/tlačenka (jellied brawn), pork broth/other delicacies, e.g. liver sausage, blood sausage, potatoes, cabbage.*



30



31



32

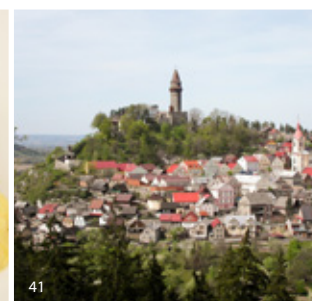
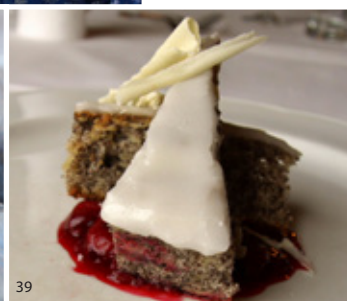


33



34

CZECH GASTRONOMY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE



DAY 8 – NORTH MORAVIA – CHEESE AND POPULAR DESSERTS

In the morning you will visit the most important town in North Moravia – **Olomouc**. The town is inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List, thanks to the Holy Trinity Column, the Baroque fountains, Archbishopric and the university.

Lunch consists of garlic soup with cheese and croutons, roasted lamb chop with garlic, baked potatoes.

After lunch, you will visit the **"Olomoucké tvarůžky"** cheese museum **with tasting** at the end of the tour. This unique low-fat cheese has been produced since the 19th century, and uses the EU protected geographical indication. In the afternoon you can take a break with a *coffee/tea/hot chocolate with Wallachian frgál* (delicious cake with pear jam or "tvaroh" – curd cheese). Return.



RATES April – October (except public holidays)

starting from 579 €/ person in a double room (base 30 pax)

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- 7 nights with half board, 3* hotel in Karlovy Vary, Prague, South Bohemia, South Moravia, Olomouc
- 5 dinners in a hotel, 3-course menu, water, bread
- 1 folklore or medieval dinner, 3-course menu, water, bread + drinks
- 1 dinner in a restaurant, 3-course menu, water, bread
- services of English speaking guide during the entire stay
- guided tours in cities, castles, churches, plants, historical monuments and villages according to the program
- tastings, presentation of food production: traditional wafers prepared in spa towns, Becherovka liquor and mineral water from Karlovy Vary, cheese from Olomouc; 2 local beers (brewery from Plzeň and microbrewery from Prague), 2 local wines (wine cellars and the Wine Salon), plum spirits of Rudolf Jelinek, "Štramberk ears" gingerbread
- admission fees to: Moser glassworks, Karlštejn castle and Hluboká castle, steam train ride in Jindřichův Hradec, Rotunda of St. Catherine in Znojmo,

- an open-air museum in Rožnov
- 2 coffees / teas with dessert
- 8 traditional lunches
- local taxes

ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

- coach transport
- see blue boxes

Starting from
579 €/person in
a double room

Photo credits and copyrights: 0, 9, 25 FRENCH-REST spol. s r.o. ; 1,39 & Restaurant Slavia, a.s. ; 2 www.karlovyvary.cz ; 3 Chodovar spol. s r.o. ; 4 U modré kachničky ; 5, 12, 13 Kávárna Obecní dům ; 6 Plzeňský Prazdroj, a.s. ; 24, 45 Wikimedia Commons ; 7 Restaurant Michal ; 8 Novoměstský pivovar spol. s.r.o. ; 10 Nilllerk – Own photo of dish as served in Restaurace Dolce Vita Loubská 84. 52, Decín XIII-Loubí, Czech Republic / Wikimedia Commons ; 11 Klášterní pivovar Strahov ; 14 Prague Boats ; 15 Krčma U Pavouka ; 16 Jihočeská centrála cestovního ruchu ; 17 Šupina a Šupinka s.r.o. ; 18 Krumlov Tourism autor Ing. Libor Sváček ; 19 Jan Ševčík ; 20 Knedlíky Lázníčka ; 21 Jihomoravské muzeum Znojmo ; 22 Vinařství u kapličky ; 23 PetrS. at cs.wikipedia / Wikimedia Commons ; 26 www.dolcevita.blog.cz 2008 ; 27, 40 At the Charles Bridge ; 28 Česká mykologická společnost ; 29, 34 Bukovanský mlýn ; 30 Atillak – Tento soubor vznikl v rámci grantu Lidové kroje a zvyky / Wikimedia Commons ; 31 Hraníční zámeček ; 32 Prodej stromků s.r.o. ; 33 Guety / de.wikipedia / Wikimedia Commons ; 35 Iva Černá ; 36, 43 Valašské muzeum v přírodě ; 37 Matěj Batha / Wikimedia Commons ; 38 Rudolf Jelinek a.s. ; 41 David Paloch / Wikimedia Commons ; 42 Štrambercké uši – Hanzelkovi ; 44 A. W. spol. s r.o.