



April 24, 2017

STUDY ABROAD

PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION SUSQUEHANNA UNIVERSITY MAY 17–JUNE 1

CIEE STUDY CENTER PRAGUE

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Currency

Currency: Czech koruna (CZK)

Current Exchange rate: \$1 = 25 CZK

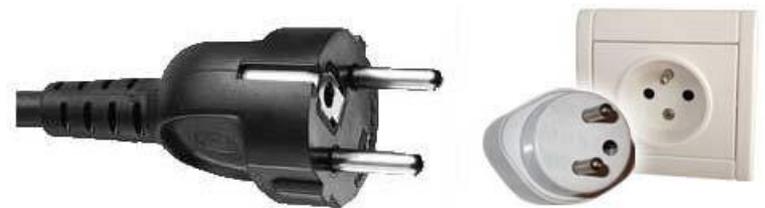
- Coffee (50CZK/ \$2)
- Lunch on the go: sandwich & soda (80 CZK/\$3.2)
- Lunch in restaurants: lunch menus (150 CZK/\$6)
- Beer (0.5l) (30 CZK/\$1.2)

Be ready that a lot of shops and smaller restaurants/café do not accept cards – cash is always the best way, even though situation is getting better

Bank is the best place where to change money
Checks are not widely used in the Czech Republic



- Check with your provider to see if your current plan allows for international calling
- Using internet is the best way how to communicate with your family/friends
- Free wi-fi is almost everywhere in Prague (cafés, restaurants, shopping center); sometimes you have to ask for password
- Opportunity to use PC Lab in CIEE Centre Prague
- Reduce data roaming charges by updating your settings to check for email and wireless connections manually, rather than automatically – use free wi-fi
- Control voltage requirement for your cell phone



Accommodation Prague - **Hotel Golf******

- Nearest tram stop Hotel Golf
- 11 minutes from Anděl - lot of shops, restaurants, cafés
- Within 30 minutes to CIEE Centre
- Twin and triple rooms
- Free Wi-fi
- Mattress cover, sheets, blanket, pillow, and towels provided
- Breakfast every morning
- **Room equipment:** private bathroom, equipped with a hair dryer, WC, TV, SAT, telephone



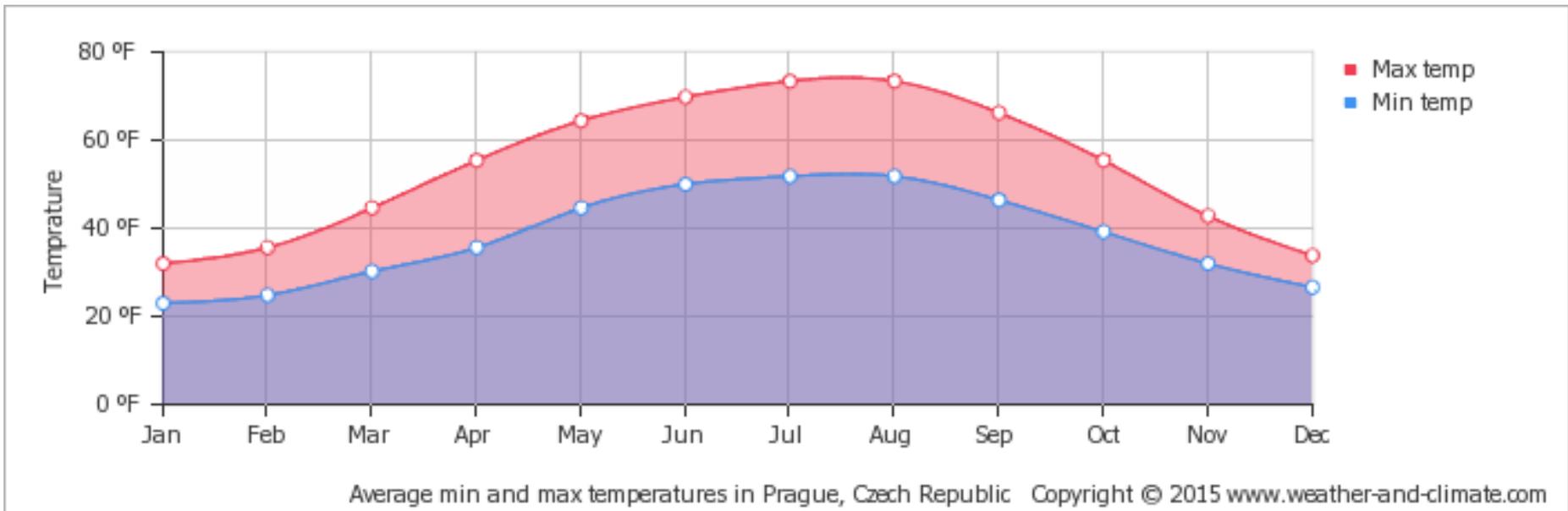
Dress code

- Czech fashion style: typically conservative way of clothing
- Even though the situation is getting better, Czechs usually wear dark clothes, non extravagant clothing
- **For men** – it is polite to take your hats/caps down in café, restaurants, theatres, Christian churches, basically everywhere under the roof
- **For women** - Avoid taking high heels as most of the streets are cobbled; cover your shoulders in the church
- For site visits and guest lectures – **business casual** dress code is recommended
- For workshops- comfortable gym clothes, no tank tops



Dress code

- Durable, comfortable, and practical clothing is absolutely essential
- Comfortable walking shoes (for guided tour of Prague)
- Warm and waterproof jacket, umbrella
- Dress up for high culture event
- No laundry room in Hotel Golf
- Weather in May can be tricky – usually 50 degrees (watch weather forecast before arrival carefully)



Safety and Security

Basic Travel Safety tips:

- Never go out alone
- Tell others where you are going
- Don't carry large amounts of cash
- Don't leave items unattended
- Remain alert in crowded tourist areas and on public transportation; it's easy to be pick pocketed.
- At night, don't take shortcuts. Call yourself a cab or walk on main, well-lit, and populated streets. Avoid walking alone, avoid parks, and deserted areas.



Frequently Asked Questions

„In case I need e.g. a painkiller for a headache...where can I buy it?“

In the Czech Republic, there is a difference between a pharmacy, where you can buy medicine (sign: green cross) and a drugstore where you usually buy only cosmetics, detergents, etc.

„I am a vegetarian or a vegan. Is it a problem?“

No, although our traditional cuisine is based on mostly meat/eggs/wheat, more and more restaurants and cafés offer vegetarian and vegan food.

„Is it safe to drink tap water?“

Yes, it is perfectly safe. It is usually free in cafés but be prepared that in some restaurants you will have to pay for it.

„Is it ok to smoke in restaurants?“

In many restaurants, it is allowed but typically these restaurants have some non-smoking areas. Usually it is not allowed to smoke in any restaurant during lunch time. (*Complete ban on smoking from May 31.*)

„Are there any public restrooms in Prague?“

Yes, there is usually a small fee (10-20CZK), though. It is not polite to use a restaurant restroom when you are not a customer there.“