

Czech Country Guide

Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to the Czech Republic Current Travel Advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions in the Czech Republic. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour. Terrorism is a threat in Europe. Terrorist attacks have occurred in a number of European cities in recent years. See [Safety and security](#).

Pickpocketing and other street crime is common in Prague, especially on the road to the Prague Castle, at popular tourist sites and on public transport. See [Safety and security](#). Beware of criminals using fake police ID asking to check the authenticity of your foreign currency and passports. See [Safety and security](#). Some cross-border road and train services have been disrupted by the influx of asylum seekers into Europe. Be prepared for disruptions and to adjust your travel plans. See [Local travel](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in the Czech Republic at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to the Czech Republic. Vaccination against hepatitis B should be considered by frequent travellers or those intending on a long stay in the Czech Republic. Tick-borne encephalitis is present throughout many areas in Europe, predominately in forested regions. Whilst no vaccine is available in Australia, travellers visiting risk areas and planning outdoor activities during summer might consider vaccination once in Europe.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to the Czech Republic should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Tourist Entry Requirements

The Czech Republic forms part of the Schengen Area. Australian passport holders are usually allowed to enter the Schengen Area for Tourism or Business purposes for up to 90 days in any 180 day period without a visa. The countries which make up the Schengen Area are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Travellers to the Schengen Area are recommended to ensure their passport is valid for at least six months beyond their intended stay. Travellers are also recommended to be able to provide documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay, travel insurance covering the period of stay in the Schengen Area as well as tickets and entry documents for their onward destination.

Travellers in the Czech Republic are required to report their presence to the local Alien Police within 3 days of their arrival. This is generally undertaken by accommodation providers. Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact a Czech mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter the Schengen Area without a visa.

Czech Representation in Australia

Embassy of The Czech Republic, Canberra

8 Culgoa Circuit
O'MALLEY, ACT 2606

Tel: (02) 6290 1386
Fax: (02) 6290 0006

Web: www.mzv.cz/canberra

Consulate General of The Czech Republic, Sydney

PO Box 132
VAUCLUSE, NSW 2030

Tel: (02) 9581 0111
Fax: (02) 9371 9635

Web: www.mzv.cz/sydney



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The Czech Republic is Greenwich Mean Time +1 hour (+2 during daylight saving (DST)). The time zone is Central European Time (CET) or Central European Summer Time (CEST). DST starts on the last Sunday in March and ends on the last Sunday in October.

Prague, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 7pm; Darwin 8:30pm; Brisbane 9pm; Adelaide 9:30pm; Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney, 10pm.
 Prague, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 6pm; Darwin, Adelaide 7:30pm; Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney, Brisbane 8pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for the Czech Republic: +420
 To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>
 Australian Reverse Charges Direct:
 800 001 161. Users may need to insert phone cards or coins.
 Travelex Card Services:
 Call the US on 00 1 954 838 8294
 Visa Global Assist:
 Call the US on 00 1 303 967 1090
 MasterCard: 800 142 494
 American Express Travellers Cheques:
 0042 000101, then 1888 937 2639
 Emergency Numbers:
 All - 112
 Fire - 150
 Ambulance - 155
 Police - 158

These services may not have English speaking staff. To avoid delay it is best to seek the assistance of an Czech speaker to call the emergency services.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _
 Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ _
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in the Czech Republic

Australian Embassy, Poland

L 3, Nautilus Building
 ul. Nowogrodzka 11
 WARSAW

Tel: (+48 22) 521 3444
 Fax: (+48 22) 627 3500

Web: www.poland.embassy.gov.au

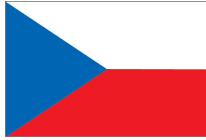
Australian Consulate, Czech Republic

6th Floor, Solitaire Bldg
 Klimentaska ul. 10
 PRAGUE 110 00 - 1

Tel: (+420 2) 2172 9260

The Australian Consulate in Prague can only provide limited consular services. The Australian Embassy in Warsaw, Poland is accredited to this country and can provide full consular assistance.

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305. Australians in the Czech Republic are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian Embassy in Poland, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for the Czech Republic and Australia

Allowances when entering the Czech Rep. from a non EU state:
 Alcohol: 1 L spirits (>22% alc vol) or 2 L other beverages; as well as 4 L of still wine and 16 L of beer.
 Tobacco: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250 g of tobacco.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of €430 for commercial air travellers, €300 for others and €200 for those under 15 years.

Allowances when entering when entering Australia:
 Alcohol: 2.25 L.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting the Czech Republic and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Czech customs visit www.celnisprava.cz/en, or for information on Australian customs visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

Electrical Adaptors and Voltage

Electrical Socket type: European (type C).

Supply: 220-240 V, 50 Hz (same as Australia).

A voltage converter will generally not be required to use appliances designed for Australia.

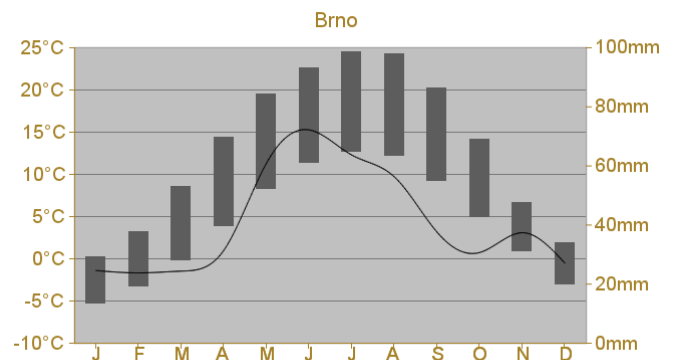
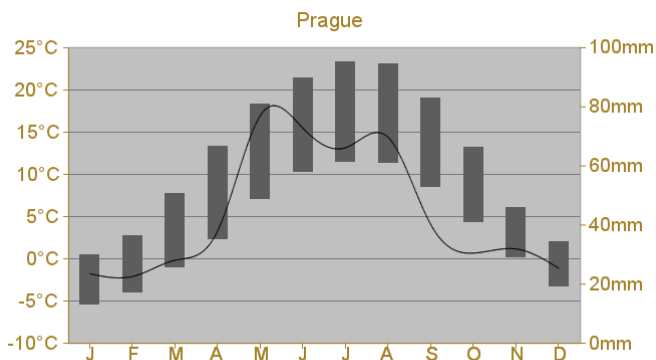
A socket converter is usually all that will be required for these appliances.



Czech Public Holidays 2018

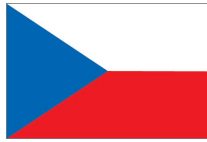
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|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01 Jan: New Year's Day | 28 Sep: Statehood Day |
| 30 Mar: Good Friday | 28 Oct: Independence Day |
| 02 Apr: Easter Monday | 17 Nov: Democracy Day |
| 01 May: May Day | 24 Dec: Christmas Eve |
| 08 May: Liberation Day | 25 Dec: Christmas |
| 05 Jul: Cyril and Methodius Day | 26 Dec: St Stephen's Day |
| 06 Jul: Martyrdom of Jan Hus | |

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in the Czech Republic



For local forecasts please go to the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute at www.chmi.cz or go to www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Exchange Rate

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 16.31 Czech Crown
 10 Czech Crown (CZK) = 0.61 Australian Dollars

Buy Rate (average rate when buying CZK cash in Australia)

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 14.96 Czech Crown
 10 Czech Crown (CZK) will cost 0.67 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "Buy Rate" adds 9% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin paid when exchanging these currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Purchasing Power Parity

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Czech Crown and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing power of each currency.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 97 Czech Crown
 Big Mac Czech Republic: 79 Kc (CZK) = 4.84 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in the Czech Republic is therefore 19% less expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

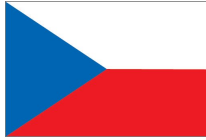
| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 5 Kc = \$0.33 AUD | 100 Kc = \$6.68 AUD | 1,000 Kc = \$66.84 AUD |
| 10 Kc = \$0.67 AUD | 200 Kc = \$13.37 AUD | 2,000 Kc = \$133.68 AUD |
| 20 Kc = \$1.34 AUD | 300 Kc = \$20.05 AUD | 3,000 Kc = \$200.51 AUD |
| 30 Kc = \$2.01 AUD | 400 Kc = \$26.74 AUD | 4,000 Kc = \$267.35 AUD |
| 40 Kc = \$2.67 AUD | 500 Kc = \$33.42 AUD | 5,000 Kc = \$334.19 AUD |
| 50 Kc = \$3.34 AUD | 600 Kc = \$40.10 AUD | 6,000 Kc = \$401.03 AUD |
| 60 Kc = \$4.01 AUD | 700 Kc = \$46.79 AUD | 7,000 Kc = \$467.87 AUD |
| 70 Kc = \$4.68 AUD | 800 Kc = \$53.47 AUD | 8,000 Kc = \$534.71 AUD |
| 80 Kc = \$5.35 AUD | 900 Kc = \$60.15 AUD | 9,000 Kc = \$601.54 AUD |
| 90 Kc = \$6.02 AUD | | 10,000 Kc = \$668.38 AUD |

This cheat sheet uses the "Buy Rate" of exchange listed above.

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of the Czech Republic is the Koruna (Crown in English), which is abbreviated using the symbol Kc (for example 100 Kc). Each Crown is made up of 100 Hallers, but these are no longer in general use. The following units of currency are the most common however other units are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised not to take the below images with them when travelling.





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About the Czech Republic

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Full Name: | Ceska Republika. | Significant Dates: | |
| Independence: | 1918 (from the Austro-Hungarian Empire). 1993 (from Czechoslovakia). | 870 AD | - Foundation of Prague Castle. |
| Size: | 78,867 sq km (15% larger than Tasmania). | 1355 | - King Charles of Bohemia crowned Holy Roman Emperor. Prague becomes the Imperial capital. |
| Population: | 10 million (1/2 the size of Australia). Prague 1.2 mil; Brno 379,000; Ostrava 330,000; Karviná 263,000; Olomouc 232,000. | 1415 | - Jan Hus burned at the stake (in Konstanz). |
| Religion: | Catholic 27%, Protestant 2%, unaffiliated 59%. | 1420-1434 | - Hussite Wars against the papal crusades. |
| Language: | Czech 95%, Slovak 2%. | 1526 | - Bohemia becomes part of the Habsburg Empire. |
| GDP Per Capita: | US\$26,300 (Australia US\$43,000). | 1918 | - Nation of Czechoslovakia proclaimed. |
| | | 1939-45 | - Occupation by Nazi Germany. |
| | | 1946-1989 | - Communist rule backed by USSR. |
| | | 1968 | - Prague Spring prompts Soviet invasion. |
| | | 1989 | - Velvet Revolution ends communist rule. |
| | | 1993 | - Czechoslovakia splits into two independent countries, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. |

