



Tour: **Prague & Vienna**
Destination: Prague, Czech Republic & Vienna, Austria
Specialization: History, Art & Culture
Itinerary: 9-days / 8-nights total trip

PRAGUE & VIENNA - HISTORY, ARTS & CULTURE					
Day	Morning	Afternoon		Evening	
1	Overnight flight to Europe				
2	Arrive Prague, Czech Republic	Transfer to hotel & check-in	Welcome, Safety & Orientation Briefing	Hotel Dinner & Aqua Palace Water Park	
3	Guided Tour of Old Town, Prague Castle & Castle District		Free Time	Prague River Dinner Cruise	
4	Czech Food & Culture	Aqua Palace Water Park		Prague Folklore Garden Dinner Show <u>OR</u> Local Dinner & Ghost Walking Tour	
5	Behind the Iron Curtain - Communism Tour	KGB Museum	Free Time for Exploration	Dinner at the Hard Rock Café	The Prague Opera
6	Hotel check-out; transfer to Vienna, Austria (4-hrs)	Schönbrunn Palace with Private Tour		Hotel Check-in	Traditional Austrian Dinner
7	Big Bus Vienna Hop On/Off Tour / Scenic Boat Cruise on the Danube River / Guided Vienna Walking Tour			Dinner & Vienna Mozart Orchestra	
8	Vienna Chocolate Making Class	Spanish Riding School Tour - Lipizzaners	The Belvedere Museum	Farewell Dinner	Prater Wien Amusements
9	Transfer to Vienna Airport; depart for home; meals in flight				



As with all sample itineraries, please be advised that this is an 'example' of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.



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Prague.... Beautiful Prague, the capital of Czech Republic... Since the 9th century when the first settlements were formed, Prague has been an architectural jewel in progress. No other European city possesses such a heady concentration of styles – Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Art Nouveau, and Czech Modern. Prague's magnificent profile, silhouetted against a bright morning or twilight sky, is something of a vast fairytale panorama.

The history of Prague covers more than a thousand years, during which time the city grew from the Vyšehrad Castle to the capital of a modern European state, the Czech Republic. In the 20th Century alone the city has witnessed a declaration of independence, Nazi control, oppressive communism and capitalist democracy. It's an epic story.



Day 1

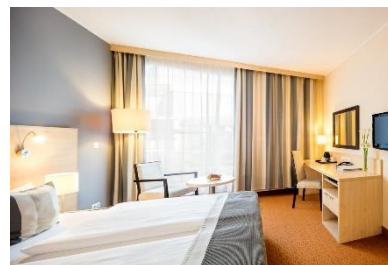
Meals in flight, dependent upon airline

Fly to Prague in the Czech Republic on an overnight flight. Some groups prefer to fly to NYC or other major departure hub the day prior to their international journey to add an additional destination onto their trip. If you would like to include this, we would be happy to customize your itinerary as needed.

Day 2

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Arrive in Prague! Clear Customs, meet your Ambassador and transfer to your Prague hotel.



Sample Hotel: The AquaPalace Hotel – This lovely hotel offers rooms consisting of doubles, triples and also family suites, perfect for every type of group. Rooms are equipped with high quality mattresses and linens to ensure a restorative sleep, coffee and tea kettle, LCD TV, hair dryer, safe and individual air conditioning. The AquaPalace Hotel Prague is part of the unique Praha sports and leisure complex with a large number of



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attractions offering fun, adrenaline, entertainment and relaxation in the 3 palaces of Water World – Palace of Adventures, Palace of Treasures and Palace of Relaxation. Your booking will include complimentary admission into the water park; spa access and treatments are payable on own.



After settling in, we'll have our **Welcome, Safety & Orientation Briefing**, followed by time in the hotel's waterpark to unwind and take in your new surroundings. Enjoy swimming, water slides, waves and much more. [AQUAPARK](#) Take a stroll, hit the shops. Dinner will be in the hotel this evening.

*The official language of the **Czech Republic** is **Czech**, which is spoken by over 96% of its inhabitants. But don't worry, nowadays you will have no problems communicating in **English** in most towns, and to a lesser extent, in **German**. Older people often speak **Russian** and **German**.*

Day 3

Breakfast, lunch & dinner included

Today you'll have an opportunity to get acquainted with Prague and the Czech Republic. We'll focus on history, culture and incredible sightseeing!

Meet your specialty guide and enjoy a **walking tour** of the **Old Town** and the historic **Old Town Square** where you will see the **world-famous astronomical clock** and the **Church of St Nicholas** as well as admire the amazing architecture. This entire area is steeped in stunning history.

Next, visit **Prague Castle**. Enjoy a guided walking tour of the **Castle District** and **Charles Bridge**. The Castle district is a complex where Kings and Presidents have all lived for a thousand years. It includes palaces, churches, ministries and **St Vitus Cathedral** and is still an active part of the government. Built in 1357, Charles Bridge is now a pedestrian walkway, offering wonderful views of the city. [Prague Castle](#)



This afternoon we'll have time to explore Prague on our own, taking in a museum or other activity. In the early evening, we'll board our evening cruise:



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Prague River Cruise & Dinner on the Grand Bohemia – Discover Prague by night while floating down the beautiful Vltava, the Czech’s longest river on a 3-hour dinner cruise. The Grand Bohemia is a magnificent single-deck boat making it a beautiful forum for sightseeing. Take in the sights such as the Charles Bridge, Rudolfinum and the Prague Castle, see Prague’s beautiful monuments by moonlight, enjoy live music while dining in the deck’s luxurious surroundings. During the cruise enjoy a fabulous menu with a wide selection of delicacies of Czech and international cuisine.



Day 4

Breakfast, lunch & dinner included

Hello Prague! We’ll start the day immersing ourselves in food!

Czech Food & Culture Tour - Food tours are a fresh way of getting to know a city. They combine sampling new, local foods with fun culinary education. This morning, meet your guide and take a walking tour through a local market and nearby neighborhoods to discover a new world of cuisine. Try local creations and decide tastiness for yourself and you learn about the history and culture of Prague.

After lunch, we will reserve the afternoon for pure rest, relaxation and fun in our hotel waterpark. You may just want to check out their amazing spa treatments!

This evening, you will have a choice of two fun options. You can opt to visit the Prague Folklore Garden Dinner Show, **OR** have dinner locally and then embark on a Ghosts & Legends Walking Tour. The choice is yours!

The Folklore Garden, Traditional Czech Dinner & Dancing - Do you like folk music, songs and traditions? Folklore Garden offers a wonderful experience of Czech folk music in an interactive show held in the romantic atmosphere of a small castle. You are seated at large rustic tables, dancers and singers will give you a lesson, and you will learn easy Czech folk songs and dances that are cheerful and fun. You can even borrow some of the traditional musical instruments and try to play along. If you wish, the band will play your favorite song at the end of the night. A 4-course dinner is served.



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Prague Ghosts, Legends, Medieval Underground and Dungeon Tour - Prague's past is as dark as they come. This walking tour dives head-first into Czech capital's sinister side in the dark lanes of the Prague Old Town and also the old Jewish Quarter. Covering mysterious locations and telling tales of executions, murders, curses, and ghosts through the centuries like the famous Golem monster, the Murdered Bride or the Headsman Jan Mydlář. Discover an underground medieval dungeon, hear grisly legends and facts, and absorb the city's eerie after-dark atmosphere.



Day 5

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Today we'll explore the Russian history of Prague. Lunch will be on your own today to explore something fabulous!

Behind the Iron Curtain: Communism Tour - This country has a dark period in its history when it was full of paranoia, spying and violence. On this tour, you'll uncover the background and stories from the communist time, having an opportunity to experience how life would have been in the cold-war period. Part of the daily life was spent in fear of a nuclear war. Citizens questioned who would survive and how. Here, the answers lie beneath the ground. After the start of the cold war, the communist regime fell into the permanent paranoia of being under threat of a nuclear attack from the west by their capitalist and imperialist enemies. As a result of defensive policies on both sides of the iron curtain, the people felt it was necessary to prepare for such a nuclear war. This tour reviews the history of communism, spies and lies, communist terror - prisoners, refugees and dissidents, plus cold war stories.



After, we'll break for lunch and then it's on to the KGB Museum.

KGB Museum - This small museum was established by a Russian enthusiast and houses a large variety of memorabilia relating to the secret police of the Soviet Union. You may well be shown around by the collector himself and you can expect to find an assortment of spy cameras, secret weapons and interrogation equipment. Another interesting exhibit within the museum are the photographs of Prague taken by a KGB officer in the year of 1968 in which the streets of the city appear eerily empty. Quite unusual pieces, such as the death mask of Lenin, the Trotsky murder weapon, the radio from Beria's cabinet, the equipment from the laboratories of the KGB and many other things are in this collection in KGB



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Museum in Prague. You can also explore NSC attributes - Special Service of the Czechoslovak People's Republic.

In the late afternoon, have free time for some last-minute shopping or museums. If you're interested in local museums, some possibilities may include the [Museum of Alchemy](#), [National Gallery Prague](#), [Museum of Senses Prague](#) and the [Czech Museum of Music](#).

This evening we'll take time to dress in a dashing outfit, then we're in for a real treat. Tonight we'll have an early dinner at the Hard Rock Café and then visit the Czech Opera for a night of stunning culture.

Prague's beautiful melody!

Music plays a most important role in Prague, making the capital a city where the melodies and airs of the great composers ring out on every street corner. Every church and grand house presents a concert or a recital in the evening, transforming the city into one giant concert hall. Dependent upon what is offered, your group will get to explore an experience at one of these incredible locations.



The three main theatres are the Národní divadlo, the Státní opera, and the Stavovské divadlo:

The [Národní divadlo](#) (National Theatre) is the most famous Czech theatre. The theatre opened for the first time in 1881. After 11 performances, the theatre burnt down and was closed. Josef Schulz rebuilt the building by merging three buildings and the theatre reopened in 1883. An annex was added, then a major refurbishing of the theatre's interior took place in 1977.

The Státní opera (State Opera) has always been the Národní's main competitor. The Neuer Deutscher Theater opened in 1888 and was directed by Germans to rival the Czechs. After the German troops left the city in 1945, the Czech acquired the Neuer Deutscher Theater and renamed it the Great Opera of May 5th. The theatre was linked to the national theatre and renamed Smetana Theatre in 1949. After 1989, Karel Drgáč became the first director of the freshly renamed Státní opera.

The [Stavovské divadlo](#) (Theatre of the States) is older than the other theatres. It opened in 1783 and was meant for Italian and German operas, but the venue also showed other international productions and Czech productions. Mozart's "Don Giovanni" was created here in 1787 and was a success. His "La clemenza di Tito" was also created here in 1791. Some parts of the movie "Amadeus", which relates Mozart's life, were filmed in the Stavovské divadlo.

Day 6

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own during travels

This morning we'll check-out of our hotel, load up and head to Vienna, Austria, approximately a 4-hour drive.

Vienna.... Vienna, Austria's capital, lies in the eastern part of the country, on the Danube River. Its artistic and intellectual legacy was shaped by residents including Mozart, Beethoven and Sigmund Freud. The city is also known for its Imperial palaces, including Schönbrunn, the Habsburgs' summer residence. In the Museums Quartier district, historic and contemporary buildings display works by Egon Schiele, Gustav Klimt and other artists.

Upon arrival, we'll visit the incredible Schönbrunn Palace with a private tour!

Schönbrunn Palace – A World Cultural Heritage site and Austria's most-visited location. The baroque art consisting of palace and gardens, was the property of the Habsburgs for centuries and is today largely in its original condition. During the reign of Maria Theresa, as an imperial summer residence, Schönbrunn Palace became the glittering focus of court life. From this time on, it played host to the leading statesmen of Europe. Visitors will find numerous attractions in the authentically furnished residential and ceremonial rooms of the Imperial Family in the palace, to the maze and the labyrinth in the gardens.



After viewing the Palace, we'll check into our hotel. This evening we'll have a fabulous evening out to celebrate our arrival in Austria with a traditional dinner with options like **Schnitzel** or **Goulash**.

Day 7

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Today we'll indulge ourselves with fabulous sightseeing in Vienna. Hop aboard the bus and get ready to see the brilliant sites!

Big Bus Vienna (or similar) – The Vienna bus tour lets you delve into Vienna's rich history, sophisticated culture and stunning architecture. The flexibility of the hop-on / hop-off tours allows you to immerse yourself in Vienna's beautiful museums, magnificent palaces, grand monuments and rolling gardens at your own pace. Discover the baroque splendor and regal history of Vienna while exploring the best Vienna attractions, including architectural masterpieces St. Stephen's Cathedral and Vienna State Opera, alongside hidden gems within the



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Museumsquarter, Burggarten Court Garden and the House of Music. 15 stops to explore Vienna's iconic landmarks and attractions!



Danube River Cruise - Enjoy a river cruise on the Danube! Cruises last between 1.5 and 2-hours, allowing you to see the sights from a unique vantage point on the Danube River.

Guided Vienna Walking Tour - The Vienna City Walking Tour introduces you to the lives of the Habsburgs and touches on some of the city's famous composers. Each tour is led by a qualified guide, who will give you an insight into the area's history and culture.

This evening, we'll get to have an amazing night of culture as Mozart rocks our house! Enjoy a lovely dinner and an orchestra performance, only in Vienna!

The Vienna Mozart Orchestra - The repertoire of the Vienna Mozart Orchestra includes more than 100 works by the great master of the Viennese classical era Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The concerts are performed in the style of 18th century "Musical Academies" at which it was usual to perform single movements from his many symphonies and solo concertos, as well as overtures, arias and duets from his best-known operas, all in magnificent costumes and wigs! The favorite works by Mozart are performed at every concert. [Video collection](#)



Day 8

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Today we'll set off to explore some fabulous cultural opportunities in our last full day in Vienna.



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Vienna Chocolate Making Class – Chocolate lovers won't want to miss this delicious activity in Vienna. Learn all about the history of chocolate before getting the chance to make your own chocolate bars. Don't leave the results up to chance, though—you are guided the whole way through, to make sure your finished products are drool-worthy. The activity also includes entrance to the Chocolate Museum Vienna.

Spanish Riding School Tour – The training offers you an insight into the exercises of the riders with their Lipizzaners. You will see both the exercise of the often still grey, young stallions and the fully trained school stallions - the "white stars" - in the imperial setting of the baroque Winter Riding School, accompanied by classical Viennese music. In the tour of the Spanish Riding School you will visit the unique baroque Winter Riding School, the Summer Riding School with one of the world's largest oval horse walkers and the stables of the Lipizzan stallions, which have been housed in the Stallburg (one of Vienna's most prominent Renaissance building) for more than 450 years. You will see the various locations that make up the special charm of the historic institution and will learn about the history, equestrian traditions and about the stars – the Lipizzan stallions!



The Belvedere Museum – The two Belvedere palaces were built in the early eighteenth century by the famous Baroque architect Johann Lucas von Hildebrandt to be used as the summer residence of Prince Eugene of Savoy (1663–1736). One of Europe's most stunning Baroque landmarks, this ensemble – comprising the Upper and Lower Belvedere and an extensive garden – is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today the Belvedere houses the greatest collection of Austrian art dating from the Middle Ages to the present day, complemented by the work of international artists such as Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, and Max Beckmann. Highlights from the holdings Vienna 1880–1914 are the world's largest collection of Gustav Klimt's paintings (including the famous golden Art Nouveau icons the Kiss (Lovers) and Judith and works by Egon Schiele and Oskar Kokoschka. Key works of French Impressionism and the greatest collection of Viennese Biedermeier art are further attractions on display at the Upper Belvedere.



This evening, we'll have a farewell dinner and then an evening at the Prater Wien Amusements.



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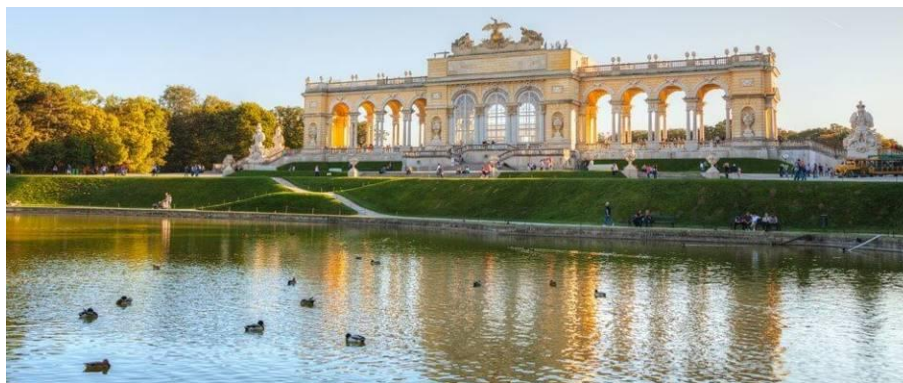
Prater Wien Amusements - The Wiener Prater is a large public park in Vienna's 2nd district, Leopoldstadt. The "Wurstelprater" is the oldest amusement park in the world and is within the Wiener Prater. Also included are the Hauptallee (the main alley), the Krieau and the Praterstadium (Ernst Happel Stadium). The Prater was firstly mentioned in a document in 1162 under the reign of emperor Friedrich I. In 1766, emperor Josef the II. donated the area to the people of Vienna. Later, bowling alleys, cinemas, cafés and merry-go-rounds were included. The Prater Wien area is free to enter, guests pay individual admissions/ticketing on their own. [INFO](#)



Day 9

Breakfast included but dependent upon departure time

Today we'll end our tour with free time in the morning (dependent upon flight timings) and then traveling to the airport for our flight home, taking memories with us that will last forever.



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Minimum Booking Numbers:

20 students

What's Included:

International flights: arrive in Prague, depart from Vienna
7-nights' accommodation (4-nights Prague, 3-nights Vienna) + 1 overnight air
Airport transfers & group transportation as detailed
Meals in destination as shown in Itinerary (7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 7 dinners)
Admission to the Aquapalace Water Park
Guided tour of Old Town Prague
Guided tour of Prague Castle
Vltava Dinner Cruise onboard the Grand Bohemia
Czech Food & Culture Walking Tour
Folklore Garden Dinner Show **OR** Ghost Walking Tour
The Prague Opera
Behind the Iron Curtain: Communism Tour
KGB Museum
Schönbrunn Palace admission with Private Tour
The Vienna Mozart Orchestra
Vienna Hop-On/Off Sightseeing Bus
Vienna Walking Tour
Danube River Cruise
Vienna Chocolate Making Class
Spanish Riding School Tour – Lipizzaners
The Belvedere Museum
Prater Wien Amusements
Personal Tour Director
24-hour emergency cover

What's Not Included:

Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory)
Transfers to/from home airport
Luggage fees if not included with airline ticketing
Transportation to activities not shown in itinerary
Amusement ticketing at Prater Wien
Meals not shown as included above (lunches)
Cost of visas, full or collective passports
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel
Sightseeing / Entertainment Options not shown
Hotel incidental deposits & bills – meals, mini-bar, purchases billed to room, etc.
Any gratuities – drivers, hotel services, Ambassador, local guides

As always, our staff are always available to answer any questions you may have regarding our programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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