

Welcome to spring in the Czech Republic

Spring is one of the most beautiful seasons to visit the Czech Republic. The flowers and plants are coming back to life and so are the sights and historic monuments which reopen their gates to visitors from all over the world after the winter. The Easter celebrations from April 19 until April 21 include a series of interesting events which give visitors an extra reason to plan a trip to the Czech Republic during spring.



Easter in Prague

Prague, the capital city of the Czech Republic, invites visitors to a range of exciting Easter events. The annual Easter markets which take place on three of Prague's most famous squares – Old Town Square, Wenceslas Square and the Square of the Republic – are the most popular of them all. This year the markets will take place from April 5 until April 27. At Old Town Square there will be more than 90 stands offering traditional Czech products such as beautifully decorated Easter eggs, laces, wooden toys and puppets and various Easter decorations. Every day the markets are visited by 10,000 people looking for some great shopping as well as entertaining cultural programmes. The schedule includes music and dance performances, demonstrations of old arts and crafts, decorating Easter eggs and making candles. Younger visitors will have lots of fun in the children's workshop in Old Town Square. Inside, afternoon workshops are held where children can join in spring and Easter themed activities: making Easter chicks, painting eggs and flower pots, and cutting bright ribbons. There is also a farmyard next to the children's cabin with sheep, goats and rabbits.

<http://www.czechtourism.com/tourists/search/?searchtext=easter&searchmode=anyword>

Numerous classical music concerts take place in Prague every day at Easter time and make any trip to the Czech capital even more special. The music of well and less well-known works by Czech and international artists will sound in many of Prague's most beautiful venues including Klementinum, the Municipal House, the State Opera, the Spanish Synagogue or the Lobkowitz Palace.

Visitors can make their spring stay in Prague even more pleasant by choosing the right accommodation. The best hotels in the Czech Republic have taken home almost all of the awards and of course they are located in Prague. A stone's throw from the Charles Bridge, the pearl of Prague is hidden: The Alchemist Nosticova Palace. The hotel was elected like the seventh of the best in Europe and recognized as one of the most romantic hotels in the world in 2013, <http://www.czechtourism.com/g/prague-rezidence-alchymist-nosticova/>. Straight in the middle of the city centre, the ICON Prague Hotel is located. The ICON Hotel was elected as the most stylish hotel in Europe in 2012. The ICON Hotel is also a fashion icon worldwide. The design team combined elements of the Czech architectural and interior design tradition with a contemporary flair and direction, <http://www.czechtourism.com/g/prague-hotel-icon/>.

Arrival of spring in Prague will be a joy for athletes as well. There is a possibility to join the Prague Half Marathon which takes place on the 5th of April. It is the first event of the running season 2014 and might be a perfect test race before the Marathon in May! The Prague Half Marathon winds its way through Prague's city centre, through the historic areas on both banks of the Vltava River, and across Charles Bridge. This is one of the fastest marathon courses on the IAAF circuit, <http://www.czechtourism.com/e/prague-half-marathon/>.

Celebrate Easter at a castle, chateau or an open-air museum



Most Czech castles, chateaux and other historic monuments traditionally reopen their gates after the winter on the last weekend in March. During the Easter weekend, some of them are putting on special shows. At Žleby Castle the castle kitchen will come to life with chefs and maids preparing traditional Easter treats using ancient recipes. Hrádek u Nechanic Castle offers a programme celebrating the history of Czech and international Easter customs. Other castles and chateaux which have prepared entertaining Easter programmes include: Křivoklát, Kravaře, Jánský Vrch, Veltrusy etc.

The ideal places to celebrate Easter, shop for traditional Czech products at Easter markets and learn about the various national and regional customs are the Czech open-air museums. Valašské museum v přírodě in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm will stage a three day programme comprising a period market, demonstrations of various arts and crafts and Easter customs performed by members of local folk groups. Visitors to Polabské muzeum

in Přerov nad Labem will enjoy a traditional Easter as celebrated in the local village from the mid-18th Century until the first half of the 20th Century. The following open air museums will also be staging Easter programmes: Kouřim or Muzeum vesnice jihovýchodni Moravy in Strážnice. <http://www.czechtourism.com/e/easter-in-castles/>

Relaxing Easter

Easter will be celebrated in style in the Czech spa towns which have prepared a whole range of events for the festive weekend. A truly relaxing stay awaits guests at the Thermal Spa of Velké Losiny with warm baths and healing wraps and then a delicious festive Easter lunch, <http://www.czechtourism.com/t/velke-losiny/>. The spa town of Poděbrady is offering a selection of rejuvenating spa treatments with an Easter Concert and a Gala Evening with live music, <http://www.czechtourism.com/w/lazne-podebrady/>. Special Easter spa packages offer Karlovy Vary, Mariánské Lázně and Konstantinovy Lázně as well.

<http://www.czechtourism.com/tourists/search/?searchtext=spa+triangel&searchmode=anyword>

Gastronomic Easter

Easter is also a celebration of Czech cuisine. Among the traditional fare of the Easter table is special Easter stuffing, hot cross buns, Easter sponge in the shape of a lamb and beautifully decorated Easter ginger bread. Make sure you visit restaurants which offer Czech specialities and provide excellent service. A selection can be found at:



<http://www.czechspecials.cz/restaurace/>.

For more information, please visit:

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