



LITTLE HOLIDAYS IN

Český Krumlov

CZECH REPUBLIC

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Quick facts

Essential information

- [General visa information for travel to the Czech Republic](#)
- [Health information](#)

Emergency numbers

European emergency number	112
Police	158
Fire brigade	150
Rescue/ambulance	155

Language

Languages: Czech

Helpful phrases

- Hello / Good day – Ahoj / Dobrý den
- Thank you – Děkuju
- Cheers! – Na zdraví!
- Goodbye - Na shledanou!

Money matters

Currency: Koruna (100 CZK ~ 3.75 EUR ~ 4.29 USD)

Credit cards (Visa and MasterCard) are accepted in most stores and restaurants. Always choose to pay in CZK (the local currency) when prompted by the payment terminal.

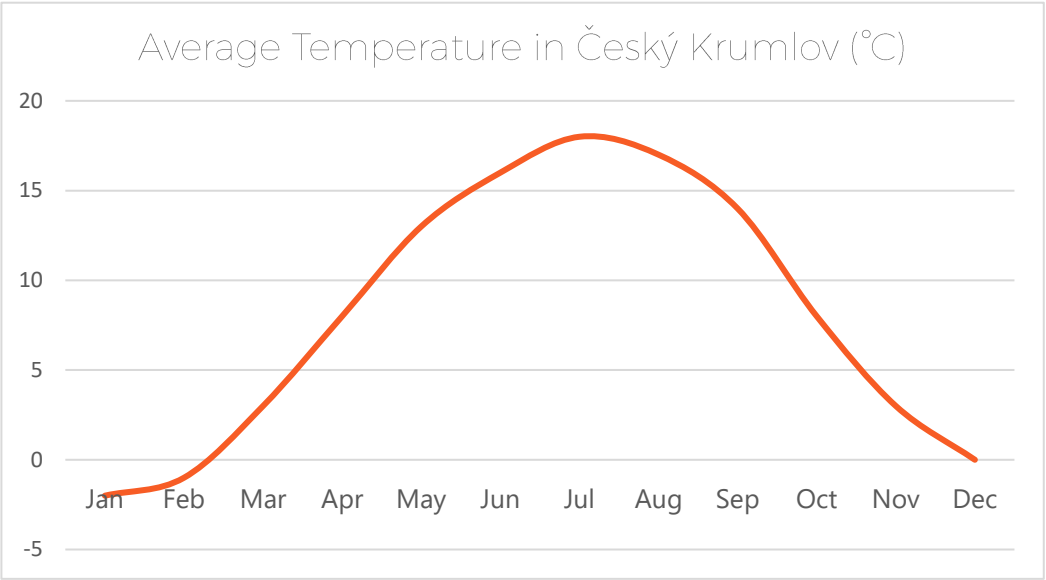
Carry a bit of cash for smaller stores and markets. If you have a [Transferwise Borderless Card](#), you can withdraw with minimal conversion fees and minimal ATM fees from some of the Czech Republic's banks (ex. Komerční Banka, Fio, Airbank).

When to go

Český Krumlov is a year-round destination, but best enjoyed outdoors from April to October.

Peak months are April, July, and December, so avoid these months if you don't like crowds.

September and October are great for mild, fall weather, fewer crowds, and better prices.

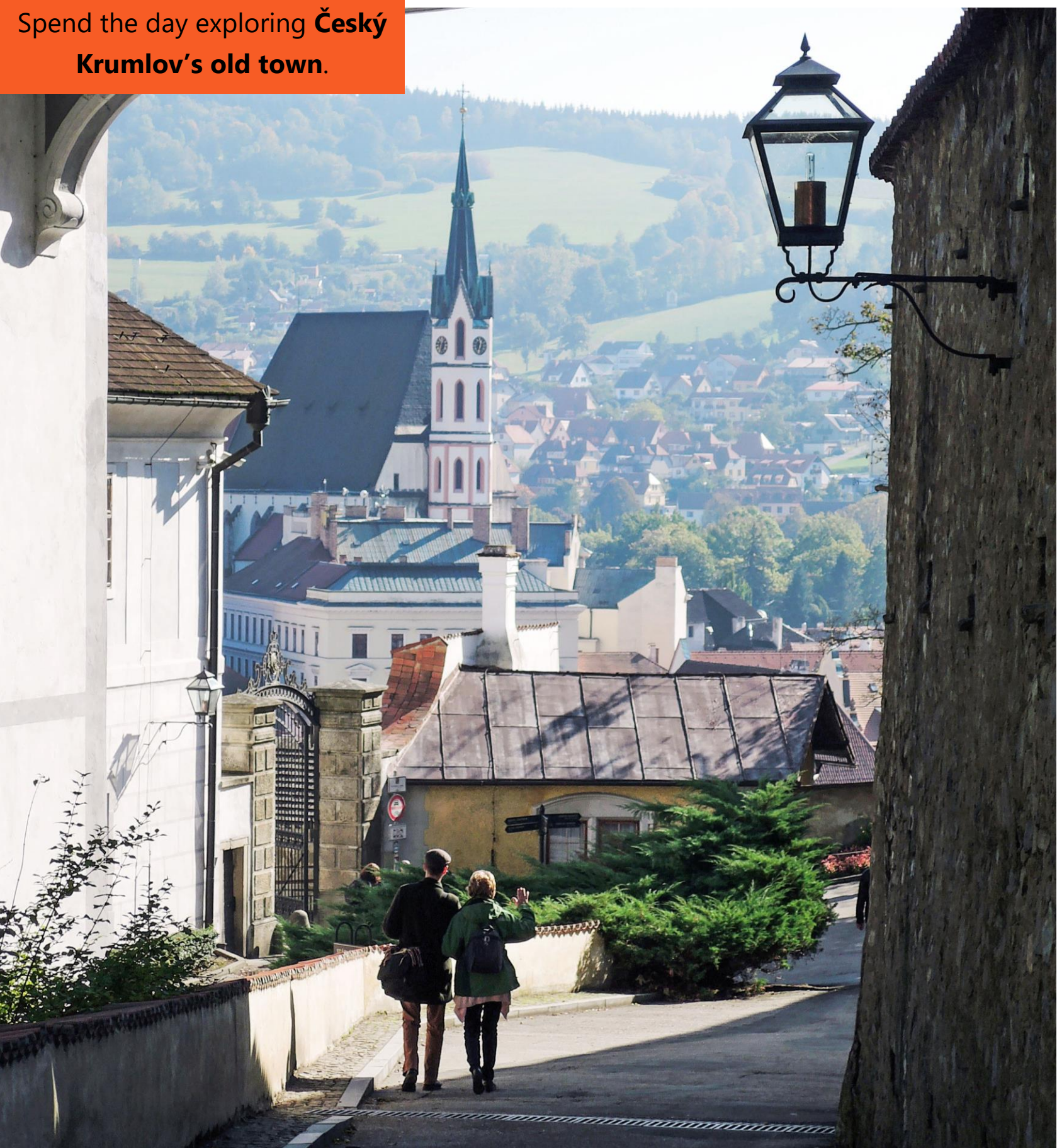


Sample itineraries

▶ 2 days

Day 1: Spend your first day walking around Český Krumlov's old town. Walk around the castle ground and up the tower for amazing views. Check out the Minorite Monastery and the traditional Czech goods along Latrán.

Spend the day exploring **Český Krumlov's old town.**



Pop into the Egon Schiele museum for edgy art, then end the day with a glass of local beer along the Vltava.

Day 2: Time for a hike! Český Krumlov lies in the Blanský natural reserve, with many hiking trails beginning at the town's borders. Hike up to the Klet' mountain's observatory tower for breathtaking views of the countryside. Then, hike down or ride a cable car to Holubov and continue your walk to Dívčí kámen, the ruins of a Gothic castle. Have dinner at the scenic town of Třisov before catching the train back to Český Krumlov. If you're not in the mood for a hike, you can also drive to these locations and see more nearby towns and landmarks.

► More days

If you can add more days to your trip, there's a lot more you can do around the South Bohemian region. Visit České Budějovice, the region's capital and home of Budvar beer; Holašovice, a small and quiet historic village; and Hluboká nad Vltavou, home of one of the Czech Republic's most beautiful castles. If you're driving towards South Moravia or Vienna, check out this [road trip guide](#) that goes through the Czech south's most beautiful towns and villages.

Typical costs



BUDGET

CZK 400

[Travel Hostel](#)

COMFORT

CZK 1700

[Pension Maate](#)

SPLURGE

CZK 3000

[Hotel Ebersbach](#)



CZK 100

[Grill Baguette Rustika](#)

CZK 300

[Hospoda na Louži](#)

CZK 1500

[Le Jardin](#)



CZK 50

[Train from Český Krumlov to České Budějovice](#)

CZK 1000/day

[Rental car](#)

CZK 6990

[Private transfer to Vienna for 4](#)



**FREE
ACTIVITIES**

CZK 450

[River cruise](#)

CZK 1630

[Private walking tour](#)

Getting there

By plane

The nearest international airports to Český Krumlov are [Prague](#) (180 km away), [Linz](#) (70 km away), and [Munich](#) (300 km away).

[Check flights to Prague](#)

By public transportation

[Buses go from Prague to Český Krumlov](#) and back almost hourly from 6 am to 8 pm. The journey takes about 3 hours.

If you're coming from elsewhere, the nearest major transportation hub to Český Krumlov is České Budějovice. You can take the train or bus to České Budějovice and then transfer to a bus to Český Krumlov. [RegioJet](#) and [České dráhy](#) are the most useful companies for bus and train travel around the Czech Republic, as well as neighboring countries. You can search for routes and buy tickets online.

[Day trip from Prague](#)

Transfers from Austria – You can book these convenient [one-way transfers from Vienna](#) and [Salzburg](#).

Where to stay

Český Krumlov has a compact old town you can easily explore on foot. To fully enjoy the castle town's romantic medieval ambiance, stay in the historic old town. If you're traveling with family and friends, stay in a spacious holiday home. If you plan to go on hikes and road trips, and want a relaxing stay away from the crowds, stay in a pension outside the old town.

Hotels in the historic old town

If you want to enjoy Český Krumlov's romantic medieval ambiance fully, stay in the historic old town. The castle town's highlights will be right outside your doorstep, and you'll have easy access to Český Krumlov's enchanting cobbled streets, must-see sights, and best restaurants. This is your ideal base if you're planning a short but sweet holiday and want to make the most of the town's charms.

- [Hotel Ebersbach](#)
- [Arcadie Hotel](#)
- [Bellevue Hotel](#)

Holiday homes and apartments

If you're traveling with family and friends, stay in one of these cozy and spacious holiday homes. While Český

Krumlov has that strong romantic-getaway vibe, it's a fun destination for groups and families. Staying in a comfortable and homey apartment or holiday home will give you that local-living experience and the perfect mix of home and hotel amenities.

- [**Monastery Garden**](#)
- [**Pension U Hada**](#)
- [**Pension Krumau**](#)

Pensions outside the old town

If you want a relaxing stay away from the crowds, stay in the quiet neighborhoods outside the old town. Český Krumlov is certainly worth battling the tourist crowds for, but if you want a more laidback holiday with all of Krumlov's beauty but minus the crowds and costs, stay in one of the lovely pensions just outside the old town. This is also an ideal base if you're planning to go on road trips and hikes around South Bohemia.

- [**Penzion Tilia**](#)
- [**Penzion Hornička**](#)
- [**Pension Maate**](#)

Renting a car

Requirements

- **Age** – To rent a car, you must be at least 21 years old. If you're under 25, rental car companies may add a young driver surcharge, and you may not be able to rent certain car models.
- **License** – If you plan to drive in the Czech Republic for a short time as a tourist, it is recommended to get a valid International Driving Permit (IDP) from your country's automobile association. Note that the IDP is only valid when accompanied by a valid local license, so make sure to bring both. Driving licenses issued within the European Union are valid in the Czech Republic.
- **Other documents** – Have your passport and a credit card under your name when picking up the rental car. The rental car company might authorize a deposit on your credit card to cover for any damages.

Renting a car

- **Reserve online** - Make sure to reserve your car online in advance. If you're flying into Prague airport, you can get your car from there.

Rental cars in Prague

[Other car hire locations in the Czech Republic](#)

- **Get a comprehensive car hire insurance** – For total peace of mind, get a [comprehensive personal car hire insurance](#) that will cover for damages and theft.

Get a rental car insurance

- **Add-ons** – A GPS unit and child seats can be added to your reservation if needed.
- **One-way rentals** – Many rental car companies in the Czech Republic allow domestic one-way rentals for an extra fee. This means you can pick up your car from one city and drop it off in another.

Costs – 3-day road trip (2020 prices and estimates)

- **Rental car** – A 5-seat sedan ranges from CZK 1700-2500 for 3 days.

- **Gas** – Estimating 600 kilometers over 3 days, gasoline could cost you up to CZK 1500.
- **Tolls** – You'll need a highway toll sticker or vignette to use the motorways. Most rental car companies in the Czech Republic will include this with the car, but if you're coming from a neighboring country, you can buy a vignette with a 10-day validity for CZK 310.
- **Parking** – Within cities, you can look for both free and paid parking spaces. "Park and Ride" garages are cheap options when spending a day in the city and are usually near main train stations.

Road rules and safety

Emergency numbers

- 112 – General emergency number
- 158 – Police
- 155 – Ambulance

The Czech Republic drives on the right side of the road.

Usual speed limits

- Highways – 130 km/hr (80 miles/hr)
- Country roads – 90 km/hr (55 miles/hr)
- Towns and cities, urban areas – 50 km/hr (30 miles/hr)

Follow posted speed limit signs in motorways and villages.

Things to watch out for

- Don't drink or use mobile devices while driving.
- Always wear a seatbelt.

Navigating

Useful apps

- [Google Maps](#)
- [Waze](#) – add “Vignette CZ - Dálniční známka” to your Toll and HOV Passes (Settings – Navigation) so the app can give you the best routes
- [Maps.me](#)

Connectivity

- [4G Wi-Fi](#)

Resources

- [RentalCars](#) – Online rental car booking platform
- [Comprehensive car hire insurance](#)

Transportation options

Local transportation

You can travel by bus and train to most cities and towns in the Czech Republic. [RegioJet](#) and [České dráhy](#) are the most useful companies, and you can search for routes and buy tickets online.

Tours and activities

[Walking tour](#)

See the best sights and learn more about the history of the castle town with an expert guide.

[Wooden raft river cruise](#)

Cruise along the Vltava river and see Český Krumlov from a unique perspective.

[Adventure Segway tour](#)

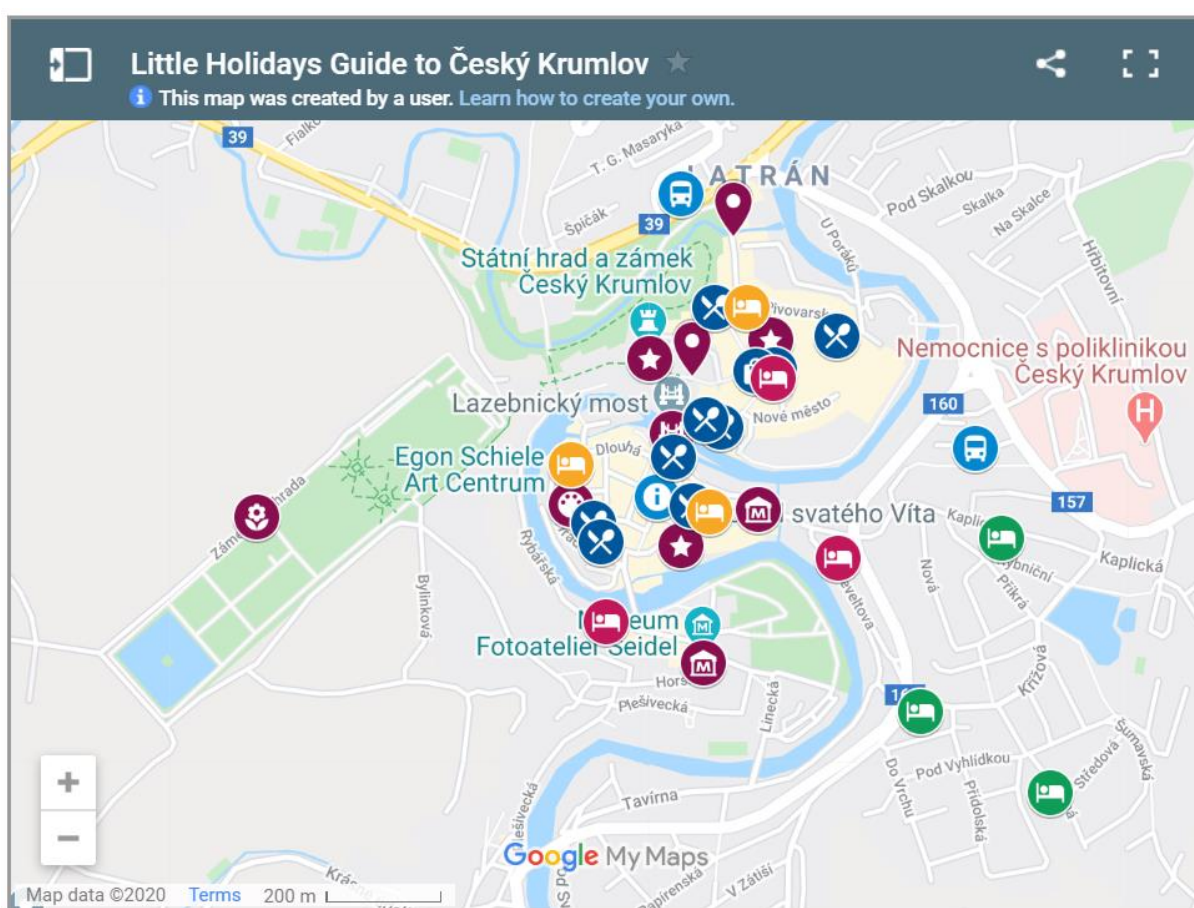
Go on an exciting trip outside Český Krumlov through forest terrain paths and discover a different side of the town.

Wi-Fi and SIM cards

Wi-Fi device

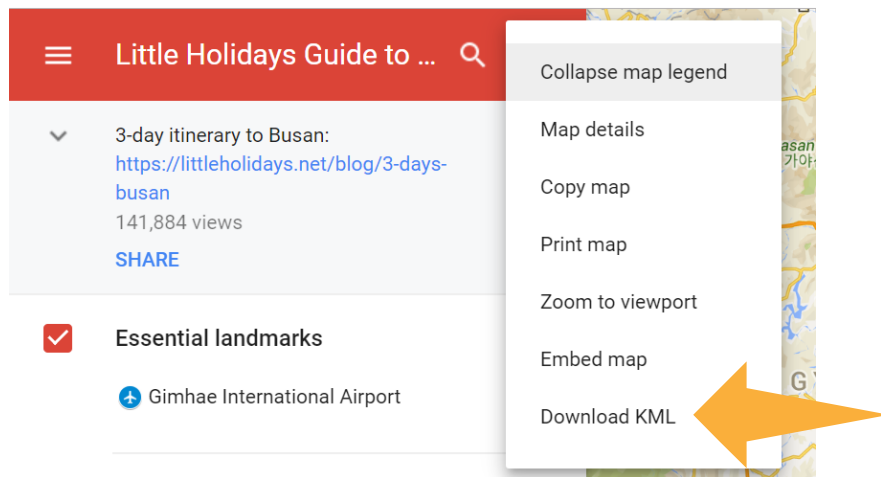
Map

Use this [Google Map](#) to get around and plan your trip.



To get an offline version of this map –

1. Download maps.me to your phone
2. Open the [Google map \(click\)](#) on your desktop web browser
3. Click on the **⋮** icon on the right side of the map name
4. Select **Download KML**



5. Export as KML
6. Send the file to your mobile via email or messaging app
7. Open the KML file using maps.me
8. Download the Czech Republic map on maps.me when prompted while you have an internet connection
9. You'll then be able to use maps.me offline – you'll find this map saved in your **Bookmarks**

Where to go

Český Krumlov old town – walking itinerary

Český Krumlov Castle Complex

The Krumlov castle was built in the 14th century, initially the dwelling place of the royal families of Rosenbergs, then Schwarzenbergs, before it became a property of the state. In 1992, the castle complex was designated a [UNESCO World Cultural Heritage monument](#).

Visit the castle museum then go up the castle tower for amazing views of the town. Then walk further west towards the castle's gardens and pond.

Go up the **Krumlov castle complex** for the most amazing views of the town.



Minorite Monastery

From the castle grounds, retrace your way back to Latrán to visit the monastery, first established in 1350 by the Rosenbergs.

There are several exhibits in the monastery, which gives you a glimpse of how the Minorite monks have been conducting their duties and their lives throughout the centuries. There is also an entire room dedicated to Saint Francis of Assisi, with panels of illustrations depicting his life and how he came to be a saint.

Specialty shops along Latrán

From the monastery, exit to Latrán once more. If you're looking for souvenirs, turn right on Latrán and you'll immediately see [Český Krumlov Original](#) – you won't miss its bright storefront. This is a perfect place to pick up gingerbreads, mead, chocolates, and other regional specialties.

Egon Schiele Art Centrum

From Latrán, go back through the old town square (or venture into the smaller side streets) and make your way to the [Egon Schiele Art Centrum](#).

Born in Austria surrounded and influenced by the great Viennese minds of Freud, Mahler, and Klimt, Schiele spent



Enjoy regional cuisine and beer in one of the local restaurants and pubs.

a lot of time in the then-widely conservative town of Český Krumlov (his mother's birth town). While at the time, his erotic artworks earned the ire of the burghers and elitist artists, now he is celebrated by the town as an artist whose bold style challenged all the norms of his time.

Sunset by the banks of Vltava

When in the Czech Republic, beer will always be present. With Český Krumlov's proximity to České Budějovice, the home of Budvar, a glass of the regional specialty is the best way to end your day.

Try to get a table in one of the riverside restaurants, like [Papa's Living Restaurant](#), to watch the sunset.

Hiking in Blanský forest

There are [several nature trails you can follow](#) with varying levels of difficulty. One route you can take is to hike to Klet' continue to Dívčí kámen and then back by train from Třísov to Český Krumlov. Start early and make several stops to eat and drink and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Klet'

Mountain Klet' is the highest peak of the Blanský natural reserve. On a clear day, the lookout tower at the top can give you amazing views of the surrounding countryside.

You'll find color-coded marked trails all around the Czech Republic – make sure to follow them when you go out into the woods.



A few meters from the lookout tower is the [Klet' Observatory](#), an astronomical observatory and research institution where scientists have been monitoring the sky for asteroids, comets, and UFOs since 1968. You can tour the facilities and learn more about the research program and their discoveries.

If you're starving after the hike, there's a restaurant beside the lookout tower. Have a bowl of goulash, česnečka (Czech garlic soup), and the region's beer (the Czech Budweiser Budvar) before moving on to your next stop.

From Klet', walk or drive towards Třísov and on to Dívčí kámen. You can also [ride the cable car from Klet' to Krásetín](#) and continue your hike from there.

Dívčí kámen

Our next stop is the ruins of [Dívčí kámen](#), a Gothic castle built in the 1300s and one of the biggest castle ruins in Bohemia.

Like the Krumlov Castle, Dívčí kámen was built by the Rosenberg family in 1349 and then eventually abandoned in 1506. While it is certainly no longer fit for a king to live in, the castle ruins still regularly host concerts, medieval markets, and performances.

From Dívčí kámen, you can walk to the Třísov station and catch the train back to Český Krumlov. If you're driving and still have some time, you can continue your drive to Zlatá Koruna.

Zlatá Koruna

Zlatá Koruna is a short drive from Český Krumlov. The town is home to a well-preserved medieval monastery listed as a National Historic Monument.

The Czech King Přemysl Otakar II established the [Cistercian monastery](#) in 1263, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary after winning the Battle of Kressenbrunn. Through the centuries, it endured attacks from the Hussites in the 1400s, aggression from nobles like the Rosenbergs in the 15th and 16th centuries, and abolishment by the Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II in 1785. In the 1900s, the Schwarzenbergs began rebuilding essential parts of the premises, and the state eventually took over rebuilding the monastery complex. Today, it is considered one of the most valuable complexes of early and late Gothic architecture in Central Europe.

You can go on a [tour of the monastery](#) and church to see and learn more about the convent, the Gothic chapel, and the Church of Assumption, which is the largest church in South Bohemia. You'll also get a glimpse of the Cistercian

order's daily life and learn more about the history and literature of South Bohemia.

Apart from the monastery, Zlatá Koruna is a beautiful place to go on a [short walk](#). The village lies at the foot of Mountain Klet' and parts of it are within the protected landscape of the Blanský forest. From the monastery, you can walk along the Vltava and make a loop around the village.

Beautiful countryside roads and hiking trails await just outside Český Krumlov's old town.



What to eat and where

While you're in Český Krumlov, make sure to try traditional South Bohemian dishes like kulajda (a creamy dill soup), various potato specialties like bramborové šišky and cmunda, and freshwater fish from Třeboň. You can have a taste of these traditional dishes at [Jakub Restaurant](#) or [Krčma U dwau Maryí](#).

Beer, of course, is an important food group in the Czech Republic, so make sure to check out [Restaurace Eggenberg](#) (the best place for locally-brewed beer), [Hospoda Na Louži](#), and Hostinec Depo.

If you need a break from Czech food, [Papa's Living Restaurant](#) and Nonna Gina are excellent Italian restaurants.

Day trips

If you can spend a couple more days in Český Krumlov, there are a lot of beautiful places you can visit in the South Bohemian region. These are all within 45 minutes' driving distance from Český Krumlov and can also be reached by public transportation.

Hluboká Castle

The [Hluboká Castle](#) is one of the Czech Republic's most beautiful castles. Initially established in the 13th century as a royal castle for King Přemysl Otakar II, it underwent reconstructions in the 1600s when the Schwarzenberg family gave it its present-day Neo-Gothic appearance. Prince Adolf II's diplomatic trips to Great Britain inspired

Hluboká Castle is one of the Czech Republic's most beautiful castles.



him to pattern the castle complex after the English castle of Windsor.

There are several [tour routes](#) you can take of the castle. You can also spend some time walking around the castle grounds and appreciating the castle from every angle.

The town itself is a beautiful place to stop by when driving between Prague and Český Krumlov. [Restaurace Lovecká Chata](#) near the pond is a great place to stop for lunch.

Holašovice

Holašovice is a small historic village which, despite its quaint and charming row of Baroque houses, has a bit of a dark history.

In the 16th century, Holašovice was nearly wiped out by the bubonic plague in just five years. Only two inhabitants survived, and it took another five years for the population to rise to 17. In the following centuries until the 1900s, the village became home to a primarily German-speaking community – an enclave within a Czech language area.

At the end of World War 2, the German residents were driven away, and the village became deserted during the Czech communist regime. It was only in 1990 when the village was once again restored and inhabited, with its “South Bohemian folk Baroque” style preserved.



Admire the beautiful Baroque town hall and arcaded buildings around **České Budějovice**'s main square.

It is now designated a [UNESCO World Heritage site](#) as an example of a traditional European folk village. It's a small and quiet town you can easily explore in about an hour. It does come alive during the annual festival held on the last weekend of July.

České Budějovice

České Budějovice is the capital city of South Bohemia.

Its most popular landmark is the beautiful square named after King Přemysl Otakar II (of whom we've heard so much about so far), who also granted the city its brewing

rights in the 13th century. The square is one of the largest in Europe – a hectare in size – and is lined by beautiful Baroque arcaded houses and home to an impressive Baroque town hall.

While there, you can also climb up the Black Tower, visit the Cathedral of St. Nicholas and the Iron Maiden Tower, or [tour the Budvar brewery](#).

Drive from South Bohemia to South Moravia

If you're driving to South Moravia or Vienna, make sure to stop by the lovely towns of Telč and Třebíč. Both are small and historic Renaissance towns and great spots to go for a short stroll.

Třebíč is one of the largest producers of freshwater fish in Europe, so if you've had enough roasted pork and duck in Bohemia, make sure to taste the Třebíč carp ([Restaurace Bílý jednorožec](#) is one of our favorites!).

Here's my itinerary for the [drive across the Czech Republic's south](#).

Where to go next

If you love fairytale towns and beautiful natural landscapes, here are more destinations to add to your European itinerary.

[South Moravia, Czech Republic](#)

Continue your adventures beyond Prague and visit the sunny wine region of South Moravia! If you love castle towns like Český Krumlov, head to Mikulov and enjoy days of hiking, dining, and wining around the beautiful town.

[Salzburg, Austria](#)

If you're craving for more beautiful Baroque cities, Salzburg is a 3-hour drive south of Český Krumlov. Explore cathedrals and palaces, enjoy Mozart's compositions, and driving around the gorgeous Lake District. Continue your [drive to Vienna](#) for the perfect Central European road trip.

[Lake Bled, Slovenia](#)

Lake towns are indeed the perfect setting for beautiful holidays, and Lake Bled is Slovenia's most gorgeous one. With plenty of amazing natural landscapes to explore, a slew of restaurants serving delicious Slovenian and international cuisine, and a long list of outdoor adventures and experiences to check out, a holiday in Lake Bled is one that's sure to be sweet and satisfying.



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Thank you for downloading this guide! I wish you happy travels to the Czech Republic. If you found it useful, please forward or share it with your friends and travel buddies. Using the links on this guide and the blog also helps support the Little Holidays (at no extra cost to you), so thank you so much for that!

This guide was downloaded from the [Little Holidays travel blog](#) and the information is current as of July 2020. Please check the website for updates.

If you have more questions about travel in the area, [send me a message](#), and I'll get back to you ASAP!

Lastly, I'd love to know what you think! Please take 2 minutes to help me make better guides in the future.

How likely are you to recommend this travel guide to a friend?

NOT LIKELY AT ALL

EXTREMELY LIKELY

1

2

3

4

5

Thank you and enjoy your little holidays! ♥