



Aardvark Israel

Czech Republic – Sample Itinerary

Day One

After an early morning flight to Prague, boost your energy with a delicious lunch on a boat on the stunning Vltava River. Then take in the sights with an electric scooter tour around the city including historic Old Town, its quaint central Square, and the unforgettable astronomical clock. Along the way, pull out your markers and sign the famous John Lennon Wall. From there, arrive at Charles Square to see the statue of the Maharal of Prague, a great leader of Prague's Jewish community in the 16th Century. There are many legends about the Maharal, but his most famous is that he created The Golem of Prague was fashioned from clay. This legend states he created the golem to defend the Jews of the Prague Ghetto from antisemitic attacks. Finally, continue onto Wenceslas Square is a bustling commercial center with street and thousands of people.

Day Two

Stroll across the world-famous Charles Bridge and tour the stunning Prague Castle. Continue to Petrin hill to get fabulous views of the city. Then spend some time on Kampa Island to see the Charles Bridge from a unique perspective. Afterward, have some free time to shop and hang out along the Vltava River and in Mala Strana (in the Lesser Town). In the evening, we will be guests of the local Jewish community and celebrate Shabbat together with travelers from around the world at Chabad.

Day Three

Shabbat morning – optional services at the Old-New Synagogue, Europe's oldest active synagogue built in the 1200s – followed by Shabbat lunch and a tour of the Jewish Quarter. Prague's Jewish population has lived in this area for centuries but was nearly wiped out during World War II. Today, the Jewish Museum administers a number of synagogues, such as the astonishing Spanish Synagogue. The Pinkas Synagogue serves as a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust with almost 80,000 names inscribed on its walls. All of the synagogues have been beautifully restored, and house priceless exhibits collected throughout the past. In the evening, after making havdalah together we will experience Czech culture from the Middle Ages by attending a dinner show at a medieval tavern.



Day Four

Begin the day with a meeting at the Israeli Embassy and meet diplomats to discuss the special relationship between the two countries. After delving into modern Jewish topics, we will turn our attention to World War II with a day trip out of Prague to visit the Terezín Memorial. Built as a Baroque army fortress by emperor Josef II in the 18th century and named Theresienstadt after his mother, Empress Marie Therese. The fortress became notorious as a Gestapo prison, Jewish Ghetto, and concentration camp in World War II. In the years 1941 – 1945, Terezín became the largest concentration camp in Czechoslovakia. Over 140,000 Jewish men, women, and children were brought there from around the country, as well as from Germany, Austria, Holland, Denmark, Slovakia, and Hungary. The majority of those who survived forced labor, malnutrition, and terrible living conditions were later transported to the extermination camps further east. Terezín was turned into a memorial in 1947.

Day Five

Be a Bohemian for a day and travel to Cesky Krumlov – The medieval town of Cesky Krumlov is one of the most charming Czech towns and the pride of the Southern Bohemia region. Its architecture has been preserved through the ages thanks to the area's peaceful history. In the 1990s, the historic center of Cesky Krumlov was skillfully restored to picturesque beauty, drawing visitors from all over the world. The castle and Chateau of Cesky Krumlov comprise the second largest castle complex in the country. The castle's exterior courtyards and Italian-style gardens are not diminished by the richly designed interior rooms with exquisite views visible from the castle towers.