



GO GHOST BUSTING

If you are in the mood for some chills and thrills, go ghost hunting at night.

Every corner of Prague seems to have hidden secrets of the supernatural kind, and there are a variety of walks to help you discover these mysteries. Some even come with costumed guides, perhaps to help you cope

with the disappointment of not actually spotting an ethereal being. These guides have enough tales up their sleeves to keep your pulse racing for the next few days. Choose from an Old Town & Underground After Dark Tour (haunted-prague.com) or a Ghost Boat Tour that takes you to dark places on land and on water (mcgeesghosttours.com).

The Essential Quick Guide For Discerning Travellers

MUST-DOS PRAGUE

BY CHARUKESI RAMADURAI

KOOKY STRUCTURES

In Prague, the two extremes of classical and quirky architecture coexist peacefully. The Dancing Building (tancici-dum.cz/index.php?lg=en) – locally known as Ginger (Rogers) and Fred (Astaire) – is an example of the latter, built in a twisted shape to resemble two dancers. The building houses the modern French restaurant Celeste (celesterestaurant.cz/en) – go for its tasting menu. And to see rather startling sculptures of babies “crawling” up a tall tower, head to Tower Park Prague (towerpark.cz/en), a relic from the communist era, formerly known as the Zizkov TV Tower. There is a buzz around this renovated tower, particularly the Oblaca Restaurant located at 66m. When the great views and modern Czech cuisine (like the poached rabbit leg with herbs) have satiated your appetite, head up to the Observatory at 93m for an interactive show of sound and images featuring different aspects of Prague.

DAWN ON CHARLES BRIDGE

Begin your day at the beautiful 14th century Charles Bridge and you’ll have it all to yourself without the jostling crowds. This 520m-long bridge over the river Vltava spans 16 arches and is lined with 30 Baroque statues of religious figures. Walk up the Old Town Bridge Tower (en.muzeumprahy.cz) – it opens at 10am – to enjoy panoramic views of Prague Castle and the river on one side, and the heart of the Old Town on the other.

- A** Look out for sculptures of babies “crawling” up Tower Park Prague.
- B** Modern French restaurant Celeste offers an excellent tasting menu.
- C** The hilltop Strahov Monastery Brewery is a must-visit for beer lovers.
- D** The 14th century Charles Bridge is one of Prague’s most stunning spots.



SAY CHEERS

It is well known that the Czech Republic is home to beer brands like Pilsner Urquell and Budweiser Budvar. However, the city is also known for its microbreweries, favoured by the locals. The hilltop Strahov Monastery Brewery (klasterni-pivovar.cz), dating back to the 13th century, makes for an ideal evening out. Its dark St Norbert and semi-dark Amber lagers come highly recommended. Also tuck into international fare like beer-flavoured cheese and spare ribs in beer marinade, made with the frothy brew.

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CASTLE CHARM

Prague is often called the city of a thousand spires, and of them all, those of Prague Castle (hrad.cz/en) are the most striking and significant. This UNESCO World Heritage site, said to be the largest castle complex in the world, dominates the city’s skyline. The mishmash of styles in the numerous churches, courtyards and palaces inside the complex speak of the various royal influences over the centuries. The highlight is the Gothic-style St Vitus Cathedral, with its stunning stained glass windows and the ornately decorated St Wenceslas Chapel. Take a leisurely stroll down Mala Strana (Lesser Town), stopping for coffee at one of the street cafes located right under the castle, on the way back to the city centre.

Fast Facts

CURRENCY
Czech Koruna
US\$1 = 19 CZK

VISA
Requirements vary.
Visit mzv.cz/jnp/en/index.html for details.

BEST TIME TO VISIT
Prague is most delightful between late spring to early fall, but can get unbearably cold between December and March. If you do brave the intense cold, Prague has one of the most beautiful Christmas markets in Europe.

HOW TO GET THERE
Singapore Airlines flies twice daily from Singapore to Frankfurt, from where you can catch a connecting flight to Prague.

MORE INFORMATION
praguelwelcome.cz/en