

Prague: A City Of Reinvention

Throughout history Prague has been affected by political and social problems, with scars to bear from the Second World War, The Cold War and the Velvet Revolution to name only the major events. But this vibrant Czech capital seems to constantly move on – reinventing itself along the way – whilst never losing its sense of self.

Prague seems refreshingly able to heal itself and embrace all that is fresh and positive, whilst also cherishing its ancient past. Not content to ever just lay back and relax, Prague presently seems to have thrown itself into a new kind of revolution – a cultural revolution. It's an exciting new chapter in Prague's tale and has seen it become one of Europe's most popular tourist destinations and no wonder; it is currently home to a whole host of music and film festivals, as well as a Writer's Festival and annual fashion shows.

There is a definite cultural buzz to the city. When it is not in the midst of some sort of festival, there are many live music clubs that carry the festival spirit all year round or art galleries with their collections to be rivalled. Perhaps most admired is the world famous Mucha Museum, home to the work of Alfons Mucha - with his delicate art nouveau pastel-coloured paintings. Or visit one of the many smaller museums devoted to Prague - both old and new – with their mix of ancient history and contemporary art.

It is also arguably one of the most beautiful cities to visit. Wander round the central town areas and you will again experience the way Prague has held onto its ancient history, but added many new faces. The Lesser Town is a thriving area, with the beautiful Vrtba Gardens, many quaint little churches and the central Lesser Square that buzzes from morning until night.

Architecturally, you cannot miss the old Jerusalem Synagogue with its tall turrets and elegant jewel-like shape. Then there's the 'Dancing House', often also nicknamed 'Drunken House'. Built between 1994 and 1996, this interesting new building looks like an up-right caterpillar grub; all bulbous curving shapes and wiggly lines. Its purpose was to herald Prague as a new centre of cultural activity and it certainly stands proud as an emblem of an exciting 'New' Prague.

With so much to learn and explore, it's best to look for central [hotels in Prague](#) as that way you will be right in the midst of all the culture, and so be best able to experience all the colour and vibrancy Prague has to offer. But with all this new culture sparkling like a gem to a magpie, do be careful not to neglect the old town with the Old Town Square and its gothic and baroque cathedrals, grand churches and narrow winding streets.

Prague is a city brimming with wonder and enthusiasm, so make sure you experience every little last detail.

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