



**FACULTY
OF MATHEMATICS
AND PHYSICS**
Charles University

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DEAR STUDENTS,

Welcome to the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University.

For most of you, Prague and the Czech Republic is a new place to be. For some of you, Europe itself is completely different than home, but we are here to help you find Prague to be a new home and a wonderful place where you will enjoy living and studying.

This booklet has been prepared to give you some basic information which might be helpful in your day to day life. It contains answers to questions which I have been asked by students over the past years, as well as other important information. Should you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know so that we can make the pamphlet better for your fellow students.

We wish you a nice stay in the Czech Republic, meeting great, new fellow students and friends, and, most of all, the best in your studies!

Sincerely yours,

Mgr. Kristýna Kysilková, Ph.D.,

Student Advisor, Erasmus+ Coordinator

Mgr. Solange Petracchi,

Student Advisor, Erasmus+ Coordinator

A LITTLE INTER-CULTURAL GUIDANCE

As you can imagine, you will not only be studying computer science or mathematics, but you will also have a great chance to learn about other cultures, and to represent yours! There are people who study inter-cultural differences and write books about inter-cultural communication and management. Obviously, there is not enough space here to cover everything in this booklet.

However, some important things can be summarized in just a few lines: The Czech Republic is an old country, with its culture, habits and regional differences, just as in other countries around the globe. You may also come from a country which has a number of regions with varying degrees of cultural difference. This is the first thing that we can say: we are alike in this.

Coming to Prague will not only be about meeting locals and learning about this place and its specifics, but you will be also meeting students from all around the world, students with a similar, or perhaps very different background.

In spite of the different cultural backgrounds from which we come, we all have some basic needs in common, and so these apply anywhere:

- We all need to be respected – thus have respect for others
- We all need to be recognised – thus show recognition and appreciation
- Care, friendliness, honesty, helpfulness, and also punctuality are always appreciated

On the other hand, the differences in how we were brought up affect our lives too:

- What may be funny for one person may not be funny for others
- Some students may have been raised to be more competitive
- Some students may have been educated to solve problems in a team

There is no right or wrong background! The goal for all of us is to learn from and care for each other, and to be polite, patient and tolerant towards one another. Some words of wisdom said a long time ago: "A wise person learns from all people met on the journey through life". This is very true, and we believe that you will have a great experience meeting amazing talented students from many countries from whom you can learn and whose lives can be enriched by you.

3. RESIDENCE PERMIT / VISA /

STAY IN THE TERRITORY

While in the Czech Republic (CR), as either a member of the European Union or from another country, you will need to follow the immigration laws, just like anywhere else.

Upon arrival, students from non-EU countries are obligated to register with the Foreign Police within 3 business days, if it has not been done by the accommodation provider (Charles University dormitories do this). Students from EU countries have the same obligation, but within 30 days.

Within 3 business days of entering the CR all foreign students receiving a long-term residence permit must report to the MOI (Ministry of the Interior) in person in order to provide biometric information and report their arrival (this is necessary to receive a Czech ID card).

Students from both non-EU countries and EU countries must to report changes concerning their stay in the CR, such as: change of address, changes in travel documentation, or family status. It is recommended that students who apply for a long-term residence permit

inside the CR (or for its extension), and plan to return to their home country during the course of the application process, inform the MOI of this when filing the application. If necessary, provide contact information while you are away, or give an individual the power of attorney to conduct your business on your behalf.

Please be aware that international students can organise residency documents at the MOI Student Workplace at Hládkov 682/9, Prague 6. An appointment can be made by phone on 974 820 680 or online here: frs.gov.cz/en.

Students that have been issued a residence card are obligated to return the card before ending their stay in the CR.

Please note that other conditions or rules not listed here may also apply to foreign students. Please see the website at immigrationportal.cz for other immigration issues that arise during your stay, or contact us. For more information please see the website of the Ministry of the Interior of the CR mvcr.cz/mvcren.

HELP

The public service organization “Integration Centre Prague” icpraha.com provides services free of charge services and legal advice related to residence permits and visas for people from non-EU countries.

Note: Apply for the extension of your current residence permit on time!

4. MEDICAL TREATMENT

4.1 Health Insurance

Students coming from the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland need to bring their European Health Insurance Card and register at any office of “Všeobecná zdravotní pojišťovna České republiky” (see pvzp.cz/en), in order to obtain a local insurance card.

Students coming from non-EU countries have to obtain commercial health insurance while applying for their long-term residence permit.

While looking for health insurance, we recommend comparing offers from these Czech insurance companies:

Pojišťovna VZP, a.s.

pvzp.cz/en

Slavia Pojišťovna

slavia-pojistovna.cz/en

MAXIMA pojišťovna, a.s.

maximapojistovna.cz/en

AXA pojišťovna, a.s.

axa-assistance.cz/foreigners

4.2 MEDICAL CENTRES

Your insurance provider will instruct you on contractual medical care and what to do in case of emergency. But, just in case, here is a list of some medical centres:

Všeobecná fakultní nemocnice v Praze (GENERAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN PRAGUE)

vfn.cz

U Nemocnice 499/2, Prague 2

To arrange for a visit, please ask for CPIN

Phone: (+420) 224 961 111

Městská poliklinika Praha (MUNICIPAL HEALTH CENTRE PRAGUE)

prahamp.cz

Spálená 12, Prague 1 (city centre)

Phone: (+420) 222 924 211

Nemocnice Motol (MOTOL HOSPITAL)

fnmotol.cz/en

V Úvalu 84, Prague 5

Phone: (+420) 224 433 681 or (+420) 224 433 682

Nemocnice Na Homolce (NA HOMOLCE HOSPITAL)

homolka.cz/en

Roentgenova 2, Prague 5

Phone: (+420) 257 271 111 or (+420) 257 272 860

Email: hospital@homolka.cz

Emergency Medical Service:

Městská poliklinika Praha

prahamp.cz

Spálená 12, Prague 1

Medical Emergency Phone: (+420) 222 924 295

Dental Emergency Phone: (+420) 222 924 268

Fri - Mon: 7:00PM - 6.00AM

Sat / Sun: 24-hour

Dental medicine:

MUDr. Věra Bártová: Mon - Fri 7.30-11AM; Mon - Thu

11.30-14.15, Fri 11.30-13.00

Phone: 222 924 289

MUDr. Iva Žáková: Mon - Fri 7.30-11AM; Mon - Thu

11.30-15.15, Fri 11.30-14.00

Phone: 222 924 290

Fakultní Thomayerova nemocnice s poliklinikou

Vídeňská 800, Prague 4

Phone: (+420) 261 082 520, 603 566 584

Mon - Fri 7:00PM – 6:30AM

Sat / Sun 24-hour service

Dental Emergency Phone: 261 083 546, 730 578 741

Mon - Fri 5.30PM - 10.30PM

Sat / Sun 7.30AM - 10.30PM

Fakultní nemocnice v Motole

V Úvalu 84, Prague 5

Phone: (+420) 224 438 590

Mon - Fri 7:00PM – 6:30AM

Sat / Sun 24hour service

First Aid Emergency: 155

(To be used only in emergency situations)

Private Clinics:

Canadian Medical Centre

www.canadian.cz/en

Veleslavínská 1/30, Prague 6

Phone: (+420) 235 360 133 (24 hour)

EUC Premium

eucpremium.cz/en

Pankrác House

Lomnického 1705/5

140 00 Prague 4

Sokolovská 79/192,

186 00 Prague 8-Karlín

Phone: (+420) 222 300 300

Unicare Medical Centre

unicare.cz/

Na Dlouhém Lánu 11

16000 Prague 6

Phone: (+420) 608 103 050

24 -hour emergency assistance

The Unicare team also includes specialized physicians.

4.3 PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING

This service is available to all “full-time” students free of charge. Counselling sessions in English only during spring and fall semester. Every Monday between 12:00 AM and 15:00 PM at the following address:

Counselling Centre (Mr. Milan Polák, MSc.)

Školská 13a, Prague 1

Phone.: (+420) 222 232 452

E-mail: counsel@ruk.cuni.cz

4.4 PHARMACIES

In the Czech Republic, basic medicine can be bought in pharmacies. But for certain things it is necessary to obtain a prescription from your practitioner. There are many pharmacies in the city, and in the bigger shopping centres there is usually at least one.

Lékárna Dr. Max

drmax.cz

Phone: (+420) 222 318 568

paha.naporici@drmax.cz

Na Poříčí 1048/30

Prague 1, Nové Město

Lékárna Palladium

lekarnapalladium.cz/index.aspx

Phone: (+420) 777 775 127

palladium@ipcnet.cz

náměstí Republiky 1078/1

2nd floor of the Palladium Shopping Centre

Prague 1, Nové Město

Lékárna U Červeného orla

lekarnacervenyoel.cz

Phone: (+420) 222 094 110

lekarna_ucervenehoorla@colusor.cz

Havelská 517/14

Prague 1, Staré Město

LOCATION	ADDRESS
Prague 1	Pohotovostní lékárna Palackého 5 115 92 Prague 1
Prague 2	Pohotovostní lékárna U Sv. Ludmily Belgická 37 120 00 Prague 2
Prague 5	Pohotovostní lékárna Fakultní nemocnice v Motole V Úvalu 84 150 06 Prague 5
Prague 6	Pohotovostní lékárna BERYTOS Vítězné nám. 997/13 160 00 Prague 6
Prague 7	Pohotovostní lékárna BENU Lékárna Fr. Křížka 22 170 00 Prague 7
Prague 8	Pohotovostní lékárna - Ústavní lékárna Na Bulovce Budínova 67/2 180 81 Prague 8
Prague 10	Lékárna v Malešicích Plaňanská 573/1 108 00 Prague 10

OPENING HOURS	PHONE (+420)
Nonstop	224 946 982
Nonstop	222 513 396 222 519 731
Nonstop	224 435 736 224 435 713
Nonstop	224 325 520
Nonstop	731 638 010
Nonstop In other emergency cases- emergency window after ringing.	266 082 017
Nonstop At night hours medication supplied through emergency window after ringing.	281 019 258 281 019 259

5. IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**European Emergency
Central Number**

112



Police of the Czech Republic

158

City Police

156

Fire Department

150

First Aid Emergency

155

6. ACCOMMODATION

For our students we provide accommodation in student dormitories. Monthly rent ranges from 3300 to 6800 CZK depending on the quality and type of room. Most of our students stay in the Kolej 17. listopadu dormitory in Troja, which is about half an hour by public transport or bicycle from the university buildings in Malá Strana and in Karlín.

In the dormitories internet and other services are offered for additional fees.

Alternatively, you can rent a flat or share a flat with other students; in this case you might want to check out advertisements on Prague.net, Prague.tv, Spolubydleni.cz or Bezrealitky.cz. A detailed account of housing in the Czech Republic is provided in an official information brochure of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Please inform the Department of Student Affairs if you change your address.

If you decide to leave the university dormitories, please be aware that there is the notice period and you may need to settle a balance on your account. The rent schedule in the dormitories is calculated

based on your estimated / booked length of stay (often a full academic year). Thus, the payment required for your stay will be recalculated if you leave ahead of schedule. Ask the dormitory officer for a details of the final payment amount before you make a decision.

When signing a lease or rental contract, you should receive a Czech version of it. You will be asked to provide one copy to the Foreign Police or Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.

7. FOOD

Almost every type of international cuisine is offered in Prague – from Italian to Japanese to Mexican. For overviews of shops offering speciality food, we recommend prague-stay.com and expats.cz.

Students of Charles University are entitled to discounts in any student cafeteria (“menza” in Czech); prices are lower since they are subsidized by the state. A list of menzas is provided on the webpage kam.cuni.cz/KAM-20.html.

Alternatively, you can enjoy the countless restaurants in Prague. Lunchtime.cz provides a searchable list of restaurants offering lunch menus.

There are also many supermarkets / grocery stores (Albert, Lidl, Tesco, Interspar, Kaufland). You can find some hints for grocery shopping at expats.cz.

8. TRANSPORTATION

You do not need a car while living in Prague; trams, buses and the metro can take you anywhere you want to go and they have very convenient schedules. Public transport in Prague is operated by the Prague Public Transit Co. Inc. (“Dopravní podnik hl.m Prahy”, see dpp.cz). We recommend buying a monthly or quarterly pass, valid for all means of city transportation, which happens to be offered at a discounted rate for students! You can also use your student ISIC card for public transportation in Prague. For more details please see the “Student Card” section in this booklet.

There are also cycle routes in Prague. The necessary information for planning your cycle routes in the capital is provided on the website “Cycling in Prague” at praha.eu. The trip from the dormitory in Troja (where most of our students live) to the university buildings at Malá Strana or Karlín takes about 30 minutes, depending on your condition and the route that you choose.

For travelling outside Prague we recommend this routing and connection search tool idos.cz (for English click on the English flag on the right-hand side, halfway down).

9. MOBILE PHONE CARRIERS

Mobile phone companies in the Czech Republic provide a high level of technical support to their customers. Local, international, SMS and data packages are available on a prepaid or monthly (contract) basis.

The three main companies here are:

Vodafone

vodafone.cz/en

O2

o2.cz/osobni/en

T-Mobile

t-mobile.cz/web/en

10. STUDENT CARD

All students up to the age of 26 can obtain a student card, which entitles them to discounts and benefits for transportation and admissions to museums, castles, exhibitions, libraries, theatres, shopping, and certain cultural events.

At the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Ke Karlovu 3, Prague, you can either apply for an International ISIC card (cost under 250 CZK) or a Charles University Student Card (free of charge). We recommend the ISIC card, since it can be used for public transportation in Prague once you have charged it at the Prague Public Transit Co. Inc (“Dopravní podnik hl. města Prahy,” webpage dpp.cz)

To apply for a new card, see the opening hours of the office www.cuni.cz/UK-3249.html and look for “Výdejní centrum průkazů UK na Matematicko-fyzikální fakultě.”

11. OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

Most banks in the Czech Republic are international, so international transactions are a routine part of their business. Two identification documents are usually required to open an account (passport, driving license, temporary residence permit etc.). Here is a list of some banks that provide a wide range of services:

Fio

fio.cz

Reiffeisenbank

rb.cz/en

Komerční banka

kb.cz/en

ČSOB

csob.cz/en

12. CHARLES UNIVERSITY CULTURAL PROGRAMMES, SPORT CLUBS, AND SOCIETIES

12.1 CHARLES UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Charles University International Club (IC CUNI, esnucuprague.cz) is a student club which organises various social, cultural, and sports events for both international and Czech students, and generally helps international students handle their stay in Prague.

It is strongly recommended to follow the Buddy Programme, which is one of the core activities of the Charles University International Club.

You will be pleased to learn that the students working at IC CUNI are all volunteers. They do a great job promoting international friendship and cultivating cultural understanding. Everyone enjoys meeting them and taking part in their events.

Another students society at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics is the so-called “Spolek Matfyzák” matfyzak.cz. The club consists of students and friends of the faculty active in organising a various cultural and sport activities. They are always looking for cre-

ative and motivated individuals to join them in their endeavours. If you would like to learn more, or join the organisation, email: zajemci@matfyzak.cz.

12.2 CULTURAL LIFE AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY

In addition to a range of music and drama societies and film clubs, the University also hosts many exhibitions during the academic year in the Cross Corridor of the Carolinum. Rare faculty collections from specific fields, often displayed in specialized museums, reflect the University's rich and fascinating history.

For more information on drama and music societies, film seminars, and important Charles University buildings (such as the Carolinum, the 'House for the Professed', and The Botanical Garden of the Faculty of Science), visit: cuni.cz/UKEN-91.html.

As a part of students cultural life we also recommend "Studentský klub K4", a place where Charles University students meet. It is open every day until midnight. Conveniently located at Celetná str. 20, Prague 1, in a Gothic basement from the 14th century.

12.3 ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS OF CHARLES UNIVERSITY

Virtually all European universities have their own choirs and orchestras, and Charles University, with its fine traditions and particularly long history, is no exception.

Should you wish to get further information or like to join, please visit their website: sboraorchestruk.cz.

12.4 SPORT AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY

Sport is an inseparable part of university life. It has enjoyed a long tradition at Charles University, and CU students and alumni have scored many sporting victories. Success, however, is not the only objective of sport. It is only fitting that Charles University students and staff benefit from a wide range of sporting opportunities.

For sports activities directly at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, you can visit the Department of Physical Education. There are a number of activities for students, such as tennis and squash. For more information please visit the department website and contact the staff ktv.mff.cuni.cz.

To learn more about the University's sports facilities, the University Marathon, Charles University Rector's

Cup, Czech Academic Games, or Battle on Ice, visit these websites: cuni.cz/UKEN-97.html, cuni.cz/UKEN-92.html.

There are many sporting opportunities not associated with the University which are not listed here, but if you are looking for something specific or more information, please contact your student advisor.

12.5 LIBRARIES AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY ("KNIHOVNA")

There are libraries at the following Faculty of Mathematics and Physics buildings:

Library of Mathematics

at Sokolovská 83

18675, Prague 8

Phone: (+420) 221 913 292

karlin@knihovna.mff.cuni.cz

Library of Computer Sciences

at Malostranské nám. 25

11800, Prague 1

Phone: (+420) 22191 4297

ms@knihovna.mff.cuni.cz

Library of Natural Sciences

at V Holešovičkách 2

18000, Prague 8

Phone: (+420) 221 912 608

karlov@knihovna.mff.cuni.cz

Library of Physics

at Ke Karlovu 3

12116, Prague 2

Phone: (+420) 221 911 256

karlov@knihovna.mff.cuni.cz

The university book store Karolinum

knihkupectvikarolinum.cz offers

10% discount on all purchases year-round upon presentation of student ID (ISIC, ITIC, ALIVE, discounts are not cumulative).

13. USEFUL SERVICES

Extensive services (stay-related services, legal advisory, cultural events...) to students from non-EU countries

Integrační centrum Praha o.p.s.

Žitná 1574/51, 110 00 Praha 1

Phone: 252 543 846

info@icpraha.com

icpraha.com

Charles University comprehensive Guide for International students

cuni.cz/UKEN-191.html

14. DISCOVERING BOHEMIA

There is a lot you can do in Prague and in many parts of the Czech Republic. Many students enjoy visiting national monuments, viewing architecture, visiting castles, learning about history and discovering nature. Listing everything isn't in the scope of this booklet, but there are plenty of cultural and travel guides available at the information centres in the city or online (czechtourism.com).

Some highly recommended places in Prague are: [the National Museum](#), [Opera House](#), [Prague Castle](#), [Vyšehrad](#), [Charles Bridge](#), and [the Old Town Square](#).

If you decide to visit other places in the country, here are a few places we suggest:

Towns: Český Krumlov, Štramberk, Telč, Tábor, Třeboň, Kutná Hora or Plzeň.

Castles: Karlštejn, Křivoklát, Konopiště, Kašperk, Kokořín, Pernštejn.

Natural resorts: Krkonoše (hiking, skiing), Czech Switzerland in Lužické hory (hiking), Šumava (hiking, skiing), Křivoklátsko (hiking and historical sightseeing).

If you would like some more recommendations or assistance, contact your student advisor

We are truly looking forward to meeting you here, at the faculty, assisting you with any study or living issues that may arise, and to all our adventures that are sure to come!

15. NOTES

