

HIGHLIGHTS OF CENTRAL EUROPE

12 days

Route: Berlin – Dresden – Prague – Budapest – Krakow – Wieliczka – Krakow – Oświęcim – Częstochowa – Warsaw



Berlin

Day 1. Berlin

After arrival in Berlin: transfer to your hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure, ending with a welcome dinner at one of the local restaurants.

Day 2. Berlin

After breakfast: guided sightseeing tour of Berlin. You will feel the unique atmosphere of this reunited city and centre of culture with a fascinating history. Our tour includes: the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, the House of World's Culture, the Victory Column, the Charlottenburg Castle, the Rathaus Schöneberg, the Memorial Church and the glittering shopping street, Kurfürstendamm. Next, drive down Unter den Linden Boulevard to see the National Opera building, the Bode Museum, the Pergamon Museum, the National Gallery. See also the TV Tower, Germany's largest, at Alexanderplatz. Enjoy the rest of the day exploring Berlin.

Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3. Berlin – Dresden – Prague

A morning drive takes us to Dresden. Our visit includes the Semper Opera House, where Wagner once conducted orchestras, the Saxon royal jewels of the Green Vault and the magnificent Zwinger Palace. Our drive continues to Prague. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Days 4 and 5. Prague

Prague, called the City of a Hundred Spires or the Golden City, is full of Gothic and baroque buildings and cobblestone streets that wind over the seven hills. The guided city tour of Prague includes the monumental complex of the Hradcany Castle with the St. Vitus' Cathedral, the largest in Europe, the Golden Lane with the house where Kafka lived, the baroque church of Loretto. We continue with Mala Strana which spreads out before you with splendid buildings, baroque palaces and gardens. The city sightseeing takes you by the unique 600-years-old Charles Bridge with Gothic towers and baroque statues to the old Jewish district presenting the well-preserved 15th-century Jewish cemetery, synagogues and museums. Then, you go to the Old Town to see the Old Town Hall with its famous 14th-century Astronomical Clock, St. Nicholas' Church, Tyn Church. Next, walk to the Wences-

las Square with the statue of St. Wenceslas. A visit to the Prague fortress of Vysehrad from the 9th century. A cultural performance and dinner will allow you to experience the rich traditions of the Czech culture.

Day 6. Prague – Budapest

The Bohemian countryside is a picturesque backdrop for our coach journey to Budapest. On arrival to Hungary's lovely capital, the rest of the day is free. Dinner at one of the local restaurants.

Day 7. Budapest

Budapest, the Hungarian capital, situated in one of the most beautiful areas by the Danube River, is made up of two parts – Buda and Pest. Buda, the older part of the city, is famous for its cobblestone streets and medieval buildings. During your tour, you will see the Castle Hill with the 13th-century Matthias Church, the Royal Castle, the Fishermen's Bastion and Gellert Hill with the Citadelle, a stone fort. On the Pest side, you will admire the Heroes' Square with its statues of Hungary's rulers, the City Park, the Vajdahunyad Castle, St. Stephen's Basilica, the Neo-Gothic House of Parliament. Farewell dinner at one of the best restaurants.



Day 8. Budapest – Krakow

Following breakfast, we cross the border into Slovakia and travel through picturesque valleys and rolling hills into the Carpathian Mountains. Later, we arrive in Krakow, a city that was once the seat of the Polish kings. Dinner and overnight.

Day 9. Krakow – Wieliczka – Krakow

Our sightseeing of Krakow will lead us to the Wawel Royal Castle and the Cathedral. We will take a walk down to the Old Town to admire the beautiful St. Mary's Church, the Cloth Hall, Collegium Maius and the Market Square. Afternoon: a visit to the unique underground world of Wieliczka Salt Mine. Dinner in one of the Jewish Quarter restaurants.

Day 10. Krakow – Oświęcim – Częstochowa – Warsaw

We drive to Auschwitz, once a Nazi concentration camp. En route, a stop in Częstochowa and a visit to the Pauline Monastery, famous for its Black Madonna Shrine. Dinner. Evening arrival to Warsaw for overnight.

Day 11. Warsaw

Among many attractions of Warsaw, the present Polish capital, the most interesting are: the Old Town, the Royal Route with its baroque churches and varied palaces, the Łazienki Park and the Wilanów Palace. Afternoon at leisure, to explore the city on your own. Farewell dinner.

Day 12. Warsaw

After breakfast: end of the tour.



Prague