

PRAGUE ACCOMMODATIONS **WELCOMES TO BENEDIKTSKA**

(troubles? Call us on 251 512 502)

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS THAT WILL MAKE YOUR STAY MORE COMFORTABLE:

- The **telephone number** here is (+420) **224 829 002** You can call out, but not to numbers that begin with a zero because the phone is restricted against long distance calls. Unfortunately mobile phones are considered long distance. Anyone can call you here using the prefix above.
- **PICKPOCKETS!!!!!!** Watch out that you don't get crowded ANYWHERE. If you get in a crowd, put your hand on your money. If you are getting crowded, get vocal, shout and move aggressively. Pickpockets come in all different colors, genders and ages, so be aware. Don't carry a wallet, just take some cash and maybe one credit card. The rest of your stuff you can leave here in the apartment.
- To get a **taxi**, call **233 113 311** and wait for the operator to come on and speak English. Tell them the address of the flat, Benediktska (pronounced Ben-e-dick-st-ka) 11, the telephone number of the flat and where you want to go. It usually takes 10 minutes for a taxi to come.
- We have installed a wireless broadband connection in this apartment. It's called PABEN2 and the password is WIFINETWORK (all caps) so you can go ahead and connect and use it any time you want. The smtp server is **smtp.iol.cz**.
- Before leaving, make sure to **shut all the windows**. That's to make sure no rain gets in if it does indeed storm
- **Always lock** both locks in the front door when you leave, first the top and then the bottom lock.
- If you should **break something**, please don't hide it, let us know so we can fix it for the next guest. There's nothing worse than discovering a busted something or other and not having enough time to set it straight for our next clients. Thanks a lot.
- The house is heated centrally, it's impossible to adjust but it's warm enough in the winters to keep you well toasty.
- Quiet hours in the house (and in Prague for that matter) are 10 PM (2200) until 6 AM (0600). Please keep it down during those hours so as not to disturb the residents in the house.

- If any of the fuses go out, there is a box above the entrance, check to see if any of the switches are down and reset them.

HANDY PLACES NEARBY

- There is a **money machine** if you have a card that is plus/access or one of the other international companies that allows you to draw dough off of your card. Go left out the front door, right on Dlouha, right again on Revolucni, and up 10 meters is a bank machine. There's also a bank machine in the Kotva Department store, up another 20 meters or so on the right.
- You can park your car in the garage under the Kotva department store. Get onto Revolucni street, take the first right past the department store and descend into the garage. It should be around 750 CZK per day. **Don't park** on the streets around here, they are all Blue Zone, which is for permit holders in the downtown area. You risk a boot and possible towing if you park in a blue area.
- There's a really big **supermarket** in the basement of Kotva as well. You can get just about anything you want to eat or cook there. They also have a drugstore if you've forgotten your toothbrush.
- **Metro B** is close by, just next to Kotva (amazing, Kotva seems to be the center of all things). You can hop it to Wenceslas Square or points further along
- **Trams** are also nearby, the **14** will get you across town where you can change to a 22 or 23 to get up to the castle. **Tickets** for both the tram and the metros are available from Tabak stores. The 15 CZK tickets are good for a single ride for 15 minutes and the 20 CZK tickets are good for use on multiple means of transport (two different trams, a tram and metro) for an hour. If you are here for more than a couple of days, buy a 200 CZK ticket which is good on all forms of transport for three days. Remember to time-stamp your ticket in the tram or metro when you get on. If it's not validated you can get fined. It's a good idea to buy about 100 CZK worth of tickets and keep 'em in your wallet/purse so you can hop on a tram or metro any time you feel like it.
- The main **Post Office** is on Jindřišská, which is out the street, to the end, right and then left along the tramlines. It's on the left side about halfway down the block. Letters are 13 CZK to post to the US, 9 CZK inside of Europe and postcards are 8 CZK to just about anywhere.

PLACES TO EAT

There are plenty of places to eat in Prague especially along the "golden walk" Which is where most tourists stroll. However, the best restaurants in Prague are not along that route, they reside off the beaten path, in nooks and crannies throughout the city. Here are a few of our favorites (locally on top, citywide, beneath):

U Benedikta, 0 minutes walk - Downstairs next door. This is a typical Czech pub. Get a beer, get some duck, have some dumplings and sauerkraut. Have some more beer. Don't have breakfast here.

Paneria bakery, 0 minutes walk - Across the street from the flat, good breads for breakfast. Decent coffee, good pasteries.

Orange Moon, 4 minutes walk - Left down Dlouha street, right on Ramova. A Thai place, moderate prices, good cuisine. Nice atmosphere, not too smoky, the food is tasty. Reservations certainly recommended during the summer.

Ariane, 4 minutes walk - Left down Dlouha street, right on Ramova. Across the street from Orange Moon. Up and down, always greasy. But how often do you get a chance to have food prepared in an Afghan style by Afghanis? It's filling if nothing else.

Rasoi, 5 minutes walk - Left down Dlouha street. Indian food downstairs, loud techno club/bar upstairs on Fridays and Saturdays. Not cheap but tasty food. Trendy folks are all around on Friday and Saturdays.

U Sadlu, 3 minutes walk - Down Revolucni towards the river, right on Klimentska. Great beer, huge portions of duck or ribs, very friendly service, a perfect example of Czech cooking at it's best. Reservations recommended.

Divinis wine bar, 7 minutes walk - Up Benediktska around the corner, straight on Masna, right in front of you on the corner of Tynska street. From our recommended restaurants page, great wine, all right food, decent atmosphere. Expensive, but what great Italian wine.

Dahab tea house, 3 minutes walk - Left down Dlouha, right on Rybna. Sit around on comfy cushions, smoke flavored tobacco from a houka, sip funny teas and eat extremely sweet Moroccan pastries. A nice wind-up or wind-down or pleasant place to pass the afternoon.

Roxy - 3 minutes walk - Left down Dlouha, right hand side on the corner of Rybna. If you want to dance all night, go to the Roxy. If you want to look at art, go to the Roxy. If you want to hang in a quiet non-pretentious cafe, go to the Roxy. But it's best known as a techno-rave club and it pretty much kicks Fridays and Saturdays.

M1 bar - 5 minutes walk - Left down Dlouha until the little traffic circle, then U to right and it's on Masna street across from the Bagel shop. If there is a movie filming in town, the stars hang out here. Lots of being seen, but it's a cool atmosphere and the couches along the walls are inviting.

Excellent French food in Stare Mesto comes to you from **the Brasserie M, Vladislavova 17, Praha 1, tel: 224 054 070**. The tables circle the kitchen which is open and you can watch the chefs and cooks prepare your meal. It's French style brasserie food, but be prepared to pay a little more than you would were you in France.

More French food try **Circle Line on Malostranske Namesti 12 , Prague 1, tel. 257 530 021-3** next to the Musical Academy. Again on the higher end of the price range for Prague, about 500 Kc per main course, their fish is really great and they have an outstanding range of Czech wines. This place is better in the winter or fall rather than summer though (no outside tables to speak of), although the food is great any time.

If you want to try French food outside, then make a booking at **Kampa Park, located at Na Kampe 83, Prague 1, tel. 257 532 685**. This is another great restaurant at the high end of the price range for Prague. On the Vltava river with a swell view of the Charles Bridge and an outdoor terrace, it can't be beat for romance and great food. A reservation is a must in the summer, especially if you want to get a table outside.

Just under the castle garden is **Palfy Palac, Valdstejska 14, Prague 1, tel. 257 530 522**. This restaurant is in a musical academy, hidden up a flight of stone stairs and in a back room. The ceilings are high and in the evening the only source of light on the tables are huge candelabras. Sheet music plasters the walls and (hopefully) Mozart, Brahms, Bach or Beethoven plays in the background. The menu here is small and on the same price level as the first three, but the romance and enchantment here can't be beat anywhere in town. There's also a terrace for the summer months and they have a very nice brunch from 11 AM on the weekends.

A groovy place we've recently discovered is **Divinis on Tynska 23, tel. 224 808 318**. This wine bar is run by a Sicilian Italian guy and he knows his Italian wine. That's a bonus as basically he only has Italian wine. You won't go wrong, however, if he recommends a bottle, but you may want to ask the price before committing. Their menu is small but tasty, and the wines are really out of this world.

For Brunch we recommend **Universal, V jircharich 6, Prague 1, tel. 224 934 416**. Open from 11 on Sundays, they have a marvelous spread of cheeses, pastries, quiches, breads and will fix you some soup and eggs all for the very reasonable sum of 185 CZK.

One of the most trendy restaurants/bar in Prague is now **Hergetova Cihelna, Cihelna 2b, Prague 1 tel: +420 257 535 53**. They have a most amazing deck with one of the best views of the Charles Bridge in town. Good steak, a decent wine list in a beautiful environment make this a good place to see and be seen. Beware of the pastas though, they are lousy.

Young Upwardly Mobile Czechs can be found at **Dynamo, Pstrossova 29, Prague 1, tel. 224 932 020**. This restaurant won an interior design a few years back and the food is

good and reasonably priced. They also stock about 100 kinds of whiskey, mostly single malts, for the whiskey drinker.

The last of our favorites is **Stoleti, Karoliny Svetle 21, Prague 1, tel. 222 220 008**, which has an interesting and tasty menu and has a good selection of tasty Czech wines. A few outdoor tables on the sidewalk make it a pleasant place to pass the evening in the warmer months.

If you want a coffee or place to relax during the afternoon, try **Kolibka on Reznicka 10, tel. 296 325 555**. At this bar there are five different types of arabica coffees served plus another 10 types of tea along with the usual bar drinks. You can buy the art off the walls, which has been painted by handicapped people, and support the foundation that sponsors the cafe.

Dancing late night is done at the **Roxy** on Dlouha, which opens at 11 pm, **Mecca** in Prague 7 or at **Karlovy Lazne**, near the Charles Bridge. Good bars are **Solidni Nejistota** on Pstrossova, **Seventh Heaven** on Zborovska, the **Blue Light** on Josefska, **St. Nicholas** on Trziste (down the street from Vlasska 8), **U Maleho Glena** on Karmelitska and **M1** on Masna street near Old Town Square.