

WELCOMES YOU TO VLAŠSKÁ 2

(troubles? Call us on **251 512 502**)

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS THAT WILL MAKE YOUR STAY MORE COMFORTABLE (Aug. 2006):

- The **telephone number** here is **(+420) 257 535 595 ext. 102**. You can call 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.
- **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, Vlaška (pronounced Vlashska) 8, Mala Strana, 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 PANET and the password is WIFINETWORKPA (all caps, WPA encryption) so you can go ahead and connect and use it any time you want. The smtp server is **smtp.iol.cz**.
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- Before leaving, make sure to **shut all the windows**.
- **Always lock** the front door when you leave. The **gate** is unlocked by pressing a switch on the low wall to your left while pulling the gate towards you. There is a code for the front door as well, 3826 although it is unreliable and must be keyed in several times before it actually unlocks anything. We generally just use the key.
- The **heaters** are electric, you can turn them on or off with the rocker switches (the line is on, the circle is off). Turn them up to a comfortable temperature. Be aware that the city controls WHEN the heaters turn on and off however, so they may not come on immediately when you switch them on. Leave them on though and when you come back, the flat should be warm.
- 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.

- 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 power decides to cut out, there's a **fuse box** next to the front door, if a fuse switch is down, it's off. Push it back up to reset the circuit.
- Please **don't pour coffee grounds** down the kitchen sink drain, it's better to put 'em in the garbage.
- If you're around town and you want to phone, buy a phone card outside the main post office, or at any Tabak shop, and use that in the many pay phones around the city. You can also use coins, but there aren't many coin phones left.

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 down to Malastranské Namestí, take the street that leads to Charles Bridge and on the left side is a machine.
- You can **park your car up around the corner in the hotel garage**. The garage is guarded 24 hours a day and is 500 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 swell little shop next door where you can buy a few essentials, plus there's a nice vegetable shop down the street on the left. There's also a small kitchen shop and drug store at Karmelitska (where the trams run) where you can get soap, shampoo, whatever. There's an excellent new bakery called **The Bake Shop** which is a five minute walk from here. Take the last right before the Charles Bridge on Lazenska and it's right on the corner. There's also a bakery on Karmelitska just to the right.
- **Trams** are nearby, **numbers 22 and 23** cut across town to Tesco department store (the stop is Narodni Trida) where you can shop (take the trams heading back towards the apartment). Or you can take them up past the castle and walk down through it (take the tram away from the apartment). **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. 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. If you are here for a while longer, check into buying a multiple day pass which costs 200 CZK. They are good on all forms of public

transport. Remember to time-stamp your ticket in the tram or metro when you get on. If it's not validated you can get fined

- **Metro A** is also close by, at Malostranské, which is left out of the square. It should take you about ten minutes to walk there or you can take a tram 22, or 23 one stop (away from the flat). Remember to time-stamp your ticket in the tram or metro when you get on. If it's not validated you can get fined.
- The main **Post Office** is on Jindřišská, near the middle of Wenceslas Square. Letters are 13 CZK to post to the US, 9 CZK inside of Europe and postcards are 9 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 underneath):

Gitanes, 2 minutes walk - A Serbian restaurant just down Trziste street on the right side. Balkan food, Croatian, Montenegrin wine list. So so service, food is up and down. Nice tables outside in the summer.

Restaurant David, 2 minute walk - A very nice, posh small place, reservations a must. Follow Trziste street up to the right rather than going left up Vlasska street.

The Square, 4 minute walk - on Malostranske Namesti, an upper-crust kind of place with a good new revamped menu and helpful service. They have nice tables outdoors in the summer.

Hergetova Cihelna, 8 minute walk - Again, on our main page of restaurant recommendations, this is probably the most trendy bar/restaurant in town. They have an absolutely excellent deck on the Vltava for summer lunching or dining. Reservations a must.

Kampa Park, 8 minute walk – (see below) The food can be great and it can be all right, but it's always expensive. They have a great deck on the Vltava and this is perhaps the most romantic place in Prague for dinner.

Palffy Palace 10 minute walk – (see below) Amazing atmosphere, nice deck for the summer months, limited but very good menu.

St Nicholas Bar 2 minute walk - Down Trziste Street on the left side, this is a very nice cozy bar open late. Great place to get a nightcap.

U Maleho Glena, 2 minute walk - Just down the street to the right on Karmelitska, a good bar with ok bar food upstairs and a jazz club downstairs.

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.

For more excellent 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.