



ATYPUS journeys in central europe ...the art of travelling

**DISCOVER THE HERITAGE
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
AND CENTRAL EUROPE.**



with
ATYPUS ADVENTURES





Dear Travellers,

welcome to web site of Atypus Travel, fully bonded tour operator and the expert in private and special interest tours and holidays in the Czech and Slovak Republics and central Europe since 1993.

What we offer?

1 day or multiday tours are tailor-made individually for each client they reflect your own interests.

We design and operate private tours and special interest trips focused on:

- culture, history, architecture, folklore, music, genealogy, ethno, photo, ...
- walking, hiking, biking multisport ...
- nature-history, wildflowers, european orchids, birding, buterflies, bears and wolfs, photo...

We offer great chance to BUILT YOUR OWN DREAM TRIP

It's our clients telling us what they want to see and do, not the other way around.

We are happy to adjust the dates of your holiday, the pace of your progress on your itinerary, the means of transport and we will give you a day-off if you wish so.

We cooperate with specialists in different fields to ensure that our clients are accompanied by the experts on the topic and the region of your visit.

Why Czech or Slovak Republic?

Prague, Bratislava, Cesky Krumlov, Kutna Hora, Levoca are the place names that are the most frequent in holiday itineraries. Atypus tour are going to take you much further. We will show you the real beauty of the country hidden in small villages and mountain valleys.

Come to discover the places that are not yet spoiled by the travel industry and beyond the published guide books.



For Atypus® Travel friendly team

Borek Seehak and Jiri Mewald
CEO and private tour leaders



Dipl. ing. JIRI MEWALD

comes from the northern part of the Czech republic - Giant mountains region. He graduated in 1991 in the ecology of the forest. After finishing the university he entered the department of the nature conservation of Krkonose national park. Co-founder of the Czech expedition society, whose main aim is to promote the saving of world culture heritage (including expeditions to Madagascar and Mexico). He publishes articles in magazines, had a film running on Czech TV etc.. His work led us to Royal Geographical Society in London and we are the only Czech members of that highly respected organisation. Ethnography began one of his hobbies except for others like photography, everything concerning nature conservation, painting and drawing, literature and film and also skiing and mountain bike, where he took part in some mountain bike races.

Dipl.ing. BOREK SEEHAK

After a degree from ecology on Mendel University at Brno, he spent some time travelling. Later he started to work as a mountain tour leader and tour guide. He guided several groups with different interest including wildlife, birds, flowers, culture and history within central Europe. He changed his position in the travel industry and represent travel companies abroad, later cooperate with leading travel companies such as Exodus, Naturetrek, Wilderness Travel, Mountain Travel Sobek as a country manager. As an operations manager designs and operates special interest and private trips within central Europe. Co-founder of Czech Expedition Society(only Czech member of prestigious Royal Geographical Society in London). He travelled intensively to different countries and organized study trips including Mexico (study Maya Indians), Cuba, Morocco, Thailand (mountains tribes), China, Madagascar and many others. Madagascar became one of his favourites. He organized filming expedition to Madagascar in cooperation with Czech television. He organized a photographic exhibition in the Royal Geographical Society in London. Recently cooperate with Czech-US NGO NO AVY in Madagascar on ecological projects. Photographed in Mexico and Madagascar. When he is not leading groups, he is hiking with his daughter. Keen photographer, scuba-diver and biker.



CULTURALS TOURS

BAROQUE ARCHITECTURE

The new spiritual atmosphere of the end of the 17th century created a new art style – baroque. Czech countries experienced a giant boom of engineering works for several following decades. Architecture already stopped to be the only functional residence of a nobleman and had to express his power and social status. Under the leading of prominent architects, J. B. Fisher from Erlach, Jacob von Hildebrandt, Octavio Broggio, Giovanni Battista Alliprandi and Maxmilian Kanka arose jewels of baroque architecture. The top of the baroque creation represents works of Krystof Dienzenhofer, J. B. Santini and Kilian Ignac Dienzenhofer, which didn't have any analogy in whole European art of that era.



Day 1: Arrival to Prague airport. Meeting with Atypus guide and departure to visit Unesco heritage sites. KUTNA HORA. After lunch drives to ZDAR nad SAZAVOU and visits Church of St. John of Nepomuk. Night in Brno.

Day 2: Visit a pilgrimage church in KRTINY. We will drive to SLAVKOV (known also as Austerlitz) where is a scene of the famous Napoleon fight in 1805 and beautiful chateau. After lunch visit to RAJHRAD. Night in Brno with the possibility to arrange a cultural program - concert, theatre performance, etc.

Day 3: Visit works of master-builder of Vienna's court - J.B. Fischer from Erlach. LEDNICE and VALTICE. The parks consist of baroque gardens and the largest English park in the Czech Republic. The area is also on the list of Unesco world heritage.

Day 4: We are going to LITOMYSL. Dominants of the town are renaissance castle built-in 1568 -81 and baroque church built-in 1726. After lunch drive to KUKS – the biggest baroque complex in the country. Later drive to CHLUMEC nad CIDLINOUM, where exhibition "Baroque in Czech" is located. Drive-in Prague.

Day 5: Centre of PRAGUE. Walk around famous monuments of baroque architecture, across Charles's bridge to the Old town Square.

Day 6: Second day in PRAGUE we walk towards the PRAGUE CASTLE. Concert or theatre performance in the evening depending on clients wishes.



CULTURALS TOURS

UNESCO PROTECTED SITES

Czech Republic - a country in the heart of Europe, where all historical epochs left their marks in towns, villages and shapes of the landscape. All around you will find picturesque connections of different art styles from Romanesque and Gothic through Renaissance, Baroque and Romantic up to Art Deco and present times. The cultural heritage of the Czech Republic is not possible to overlook and some of the historical sites were designated as the heritage of extraordinary universal value which should be preserved for the future generations on this planet and approved for the World Heritage List of UNESCO.



Day 1: Arrival in PRAGUE airport

Day 2: Departure to CESKY KRUMLOV with a stop in the village of HOLASOVICE. Small a place with late 18th-century farmhouses.

Day 3: Visiting the castle in CESKY KRUMLOV. The second biggest castle in the country is dominating the most beautiful medieval town. Transport to renaissance town TELC. Excursions to towns Trebon or Slavonic.

Day 4: Visiting castle in TELC and its beautiful garden. Then excursion to the Jewish quarter in TREBIC, one of the latest pieces put on the list of Unesco sites.

Day 5: Transport to BRNO. Excursion to the church of St. John on ZELENA HORA, later to VILLA TUGENDHAT in Brno. Nights 5-7 in Brno.

Day 6: The day we spent walking around lakes, through alleys in LEDNICE-VALTICE area and visit several romantic buildings in hidden in the park.

Day 7: Excursion to towns OLOMOUC and KROMERIZ, where is a famous baroque FLOWER GARDEN.

Day 8: Morning transport to PRAGUE. Visit Renaissance castle in the town of LITOMYSL, also the birthplace of Bedrich Smetana. Nights 8-10 in Prague.

Day 9: Visit the town of KUTNA HORA with the cathedral of St. Barbara and Sedlec and its Church of Our Lady.

Day 10: All day in PRAGUE on a sightseeing tour with all the famous sites on the programme.

Day 11: Departure to Prague airport and flight at home.



CULTURALS TOURS

MORAVIAN FOLKLORE AND VINE

Folk art and its tradition is one of the greatest treasures of the Czechs and Slovaks. From the point of view of ethnography, Bohemia and Moravia consist of many regions which are distinguished by their lavish costumes, songs and folk arts. Of course, it is impossible to get know all these regional cultures during a 7 - 10 days stay. We put forward here one of the many possible versions focusing on Southern Moravia, a region that may be called a cultural "Mecca" of this country and where cultural traditions are still vibrant.



DINING AND DRINKING

"Brewing beer - a part of Czech history"

Beer is one of the oldest known drinks, and one of the typical drinks of civilized countries. It is not boastful to say that Bohemia is a brewery empire, proven by 1000 years of tradition and by the beer consumption per capita. The first written record of brewing in the Czech land is dated approximately 1088 AD, even though it is presumed that beer was made here much earlier.

Brewing was considered a privilege, even centuries ago. In the sixteen century, beer production was a subject of research, and in 1869 the first Czech brewery school was established. Czechs consider it their moral duty to maintain the good reputation of Czech beer the quality is confirmed by its popularity abroad. After the "Velvet" revolution in 1989, formerly state-owned breweries became joint-stock companies even more, fortunately, breweries which had been closed reopened. Atypus tours are arranged to provide an overview of the Czech brewing industry. You will have a chance to visit the best hops-growing areas, the beer town of Plzen (Pilsen) and Southern Bohemia which is one of the best brewing regions. Of course, you will enjoy an exciting trip to the best breweries in this country.



CULTURALS TOURS

GARDENS and CHATEAUS of Czech Rep. and Austria

There are many noteworthy parks and gardens in Bohemian and Moravian land. Some belong to castles and great estates, others are associated with universities and scientific institutions. This tour will combine visits to some of the greatest and most beautiful parks and impressive gardens in the country with local sightseeing. Special excursions such as tasting of local wines or concert of music add our tours special taste.

itinerary

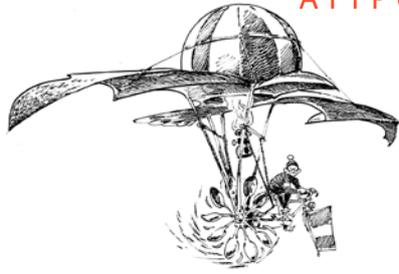
Day 1: Arrival at Vienna airport and meeting with our guide. Short transfer to centrally located 4star hotel. The sightseeing tour will take us to places such as St. Stephens Cathedral, the Opera House, the Imperial Boulevards, etc. Later we can visit the beautiful Belvedere Gardens and Alpine garden. Welcome dinner in a traditional restaurant.

Day 2: After breakfast, we drive an hour to the border with the Czech Republic and visit UNESCO towns - LEDNICE and nearby VALTICE. In this area, which is close to the Austrian border, there are seven castles, two huge parks, two historical towns and several pilgrimage churches, which all belonged in former times to the Liechtenstein and later Dietrichstein families. We will visit the castle and park in Lednice and later the castle and park in Valtice. Valtice castle is the counterpart of the Liechtensteins Lednice residence whose present appearance has resulted from a baroque restyling, in which J.B.Fisher was involved, of an older chateau.

Day 3: Morning sightseeing tour of the historical centre including Mendel museum and garden belongs to Mendel University. Alpine rock garden designed by Otruba is just one of attraction. A small garden of Masaryk University located in the centre can be visited later. Rest of day in relax with plenty of attraction there. Dinner in a nice restaurant near Spilberk Castle with a panoramic view of Brno.

Day 4: We then travel for one and a half hours to KROMERIZ, where we will visit baroque FLOWER GARDEN(UNESCO), with its grottoes, mazes, 233metres long colonnade, pavilions and pergolas, covering 10.8 hectares, and seout in geometrical patterns. The garden was designed by Filiberto Lucchese and Giovanni Pietro Tencalla in 1665-1675 for Prince-Bishop Karl Eusebius von Liechtenstein- Kastelkohn. Later transfer to BUCHLOVICE, 40 minutes away, to visit the eighteenth-century Italianate chateau. The garden, in the French baroque style, was designed by the chateau's owner B. Berchtold, an excellent botanist. There is also a chance to visit the wine gallery in the chateaux with a rich collection of local wines. Transfer to VELEHRAD(a pilgrimage site with monastery, church and extensive complex from the remains of Romano-Gothic buildings with Cyril-Methodius tradition). We return to Brno for overnight or we may stay in the small town of Uherske Hradiste.

Day 5: We leave Brno and after two hours we reach the town of TELC, considered the most beautiful old town in the country. The medieval town square was destroyed by a great fire in 1530, but it was rebuilt, and its houses, in the Renaissance and Baroque styles, survive to this day and since 1950 have undergone careful restoration. We visit two gardens in the neighbourhood of the square.



CULTURALS TOURS



We leave Telc and travel to the north-east and stop in the medieval town of TREBON. Trebon is a beautiful walled Renaissance town in a region of oak woods, meadows and large lakes. The international importance of the fishponds and lakes of this area is acknowledged by its status as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. We will finish in the medieval town of Cesky Krumlov and spend 2 night there.

Day 6: We visit the castle, park and town of Cesky Krumlov. This residence is the largest in Bohemia after the Prague Castle. It was begun in the thirteenth century by the Vitek and was occupied in 1302 by Henry of Rozmberk. The large park behind the castle is famous for its terraced gardens and is of French baroque design. Rest of day in relax and individual activities.

Day 7: After breakfast an hour drive to the CASTLE of HLUBOKA nad Vltavou. Hluboka castle was founded by King Wenceslas I in the thirteenth century. In the eighteenth century, it was converted to the baroque style by Paul Ignaz Bayer, and in the middle of the nineteenth century, it was remodelled for Eleonore Schwarzenburg in a gothic style reminiscent of the English Picturesque Gothic of Windsor Castle. It is one of the most important parks in the Czech Republic. Arrive in Prague in the afternoon. Dinner in a traditional restaurant.

Day 8: Shorter drive to the suburb of Prague and visit park in PRUHONICE. we have two visits to enjoy here. The old park of Pruhonice lies 10 km south-east of Prague. Created in 1878-1936 by the owner Emanuel Silva-Taroucy, the chateau and the park are in the Renaissance style. The park, one of the Europes most outstanding, covers more than 200 hectares. We will visit the Institute of Gardening with its modern garden which is an example of the best modern practice. We have our lunch in Pruhonice, after which we go back to Prague or drive an hour to the town of Melnik. We can visit the Castle of Melnik and meet a representative of the Lobkowitz family/owner.

Day 9: Visit Prague Castle, and lunch nearby. In the afternoon we will visit the romantic Royal Garden, which adjoins the Castle. They were closed to visitors for more than seventy years until re-open by president Havel in 1991. We can also visit Wallenstein and Kolowrat garden. Rest of day free for the individual programme.

In the evening we may arrange a visit to the opera, a National Theatre performance or concerts... Farewell dinner in a nice restaurant.



OUTDOOR TOURS

GREAT JOURNEY THROUGH CENTRAL EUROPE HISTORY

Special offer of the cultural walking journey will take you through beautiful countries of the former socialist block. After 15 years when communism finished in Eastern Europe, many things have been changed but there are many beautiful and fascinating matters of interest there too. Budapest and Krakow belong to historical pearls of the whole of Europe. Slovakia is a small country which offers a great variety of natural and cultural attractions for all its visitors. This trip will show you some of the best ones.



Day 1: Arrival at BUDAPEST and transfer to our hotel in the historical centre, which is mixture our hotel in the historical centre, which is a mixture of old houses, palaces and the medieval cathedral with 19-century architecture and art nouveau style. Sightseeing tour of the city centre and welcome dinner in the traditional restaurant.

Day 2: Transfer to the middle of Slovakia, visit of BANSKA BYSTRICA with nice old town square and Museum of the resistance in WWII. Night in BANSKA STIAVNICA – the historical mining town with picturesque surrounding filled by lakes and old mines.

Day 3: Morning transfer to the village of VLKOLINEC and shorter walk in the area. The village is listed in the UNESCO World Heritage, as the settlement with the traditional architecture and way of life.

Day 4: Transfer to less-visited part of HIGH TATRAS. The main valley offers a walk that passes around its cascade and its lakes, and all this is surrounded by the rock faces of the main ridge with typical flora and fauna. Visit an open-air museum of Slovak village in ZUBEREC.

Day 5: Visit of the spectacular ruins of the SPISSKY HRAD Castle, a 13-century vision in white atop a green hill. We continue driving through picturesque countryside to the medieval jewel of LEVOCA, which was the centre of the most prosperous regions of Slovakia for four centuries.

Day 6: optional day (day off)

Our hike today takes place in the unique setting of the SLOVENSKY RAJ. We follow a trail up the canyon then cross through woodland to reach the sloping meadows of Klastorisko with ruins of the 13-century monastery. Optional visit of the High Tatras.

Day 7: A day trip to PIENINY National Park on the Slovak-Polish border. Here we can take a walk along the Dunajec river or take a rafting trip through its scenic gorge. Transfer to Zakopane for overnight.

Day 8: ZAKOPANE - „Chamonix des Tatras“, the French guy would say. Center of the Polish Tatras, full of tourists and life day and night. We will make a short walk before we will enjoy the spirit of this town. An evening transfer to Krakow.

Day 9: Full day in KRAKOW, a remarkable city virtually unscathed by the wars of the 20th century. We spend the afternoon individual exploring medieval Krakow and enjoy our farewell dinner tonight.

Day 10: Transfer to the airport for departure on homeward flights. Extra days can be added.



OUTDOORS TOURS

GREAT MOUNTAINS OF SLOVAKIA

Hiking journey to the highest and beautiful mountains of Slovakia and central Europe. The High Tatras ridge has been great hiking paradise for visitors for a long period. Recently more and more visitors come there and discover beauties of mountains and traditional folk culture of Slovaks. The area is not too large but offers a great variety of attraction. The impressive peaks hail visitors from far away, surrounding picturesque scenes of mountain lakes, waterfalls. Friendly local people welcome visitors from all over the world and introduce them unusual local customs which already disappeared from the rest of the world. The trip could start in Vienna (Austria), Kracow (Poland) or Kosice (Slovakia).



Day 1: First short walk in MALA FATRA mountains. This small national park is famous for unusual Alpine flora, Orchids, number of rare birds, Eagles and also the home of European Brown Bear. One of the few areas in Slovakia where local people live a traditional way of life.

Day 2: Climb to the highest peak of the area - Velky Krivan (1709m), reaching the summit along a fine rising ridge (6 -7hours). A shorter option for those who will take the cable car to the ridge.

Day 3: We move to the HIGH TATRAS mountains. We stop and visit the village of VLKOLINEC which is signed in UNESCO heritage list, ORAVSKY PODZAMOK castle or the medieval town of LEVOCA, one of the best-preserved in Slovakia.

Day 4: Short transfer to Popradske pleso. We follow a popular route to the summit of Rysy (2499m) also the highest peak in Poland. Its rocky summit gives spectacular views across the nearby peaks and ridges.

Day 5: Walk up the valley to Teryho chalet, the oldest in the High Tatras. Climb over the Priene saddle (2352m), a fairly tough climb with a section of scrambling. An easier option is possible.

Day 6: Special trip to PIENINY National Park. Easy walk along the border of the river Dunajec or traditional log rafting. On the return journey, we stop in a beautiful medieval town - KEZMAROK. Day trip to the historical city of Kracow (Poland) may be arranged.

Day 7: Short transfer to the BELIANSKE TATRY, which was closed to visitors until 1993. It is known as a wildflower paradise for its high density of alpine flowers, including many orchids and endemic plants.

Day 8: Transfer to Kosice airport and flight to PRAGUE (Czech Republic). The trip may continue to polish Tatras or city of Kracow. Farewell dinner in a traditional restaurant in the historical centre.

Day 9: Full day in PRAGUE or flight home.



OUTDOORS TOURS

ROADS WHERE HISTORY MARCHED ON

(Prague - Vienna - Bratislava – Budapest)

This great biking journey gives you a chance to discover new unknown corners of Europe on your bikes. It will take you over the unique countryside of Moravia and Bohemia, lower Austria, Slovakia and Hungaria. With their richness of folklore traditions, architectural pearls and natural oases of those countries. Only a few countries of Europe can match the richness of the historical and architectural monuments.



Day 1: Arrival to PRAGUE and head into Prague to explore. Welcome dinner.

Day 2: A quick transfer to the town of PISEK. Continuing south, the day's ride finishes on the banks of the Vltava river in CESKY KRUMLOV with its impressive castle and well preserved medieval town centre protected by UNESCO. Riding distance approx. 70km.

Day 3: We continue through the southern Bohemian countryside to the beautiful Renaissance town of TREBON, located in a region of pine and oak woods and large lakes. Ride approx. 50km.

Day 4: Today the landscape becomes more rolling. Our target today is TELC. This town boasts a wonderfully-preserved square with Renaissance gables and sgraffito facades. Ride approx. 50km.

Day 5: We are now heading towards the border with Austria. Passing through Renaissance town SLAVONICE, through the mostly wooded, hilly country we ride to VRANOV NAD DYJI with another beautiful castle. Ride approx. 70km.

Day 6: Today we visit a short stretch of the Iron Curtain - potent symbol of recent and very different time. We are on the way to the old town of MIKULOV, on the edge of the limestone Pavlovske very hills.

Day 7: In Austria, the landscape remains similar, but roads are busier, highlighting the different rates of development that Austria and the Czech Republic have experienced. We transfer into the city of VIENNA, a cultural gem in the heart of Europe. Ride approx. 45Km (or 90km total distance).

Day 8: Free time to explore VIENNA

Optional extension:

Day 9: Along Danube to the capital of Slovakia - BRATISLAVA. Almost all day riding through national park Donau-Marchauen. Ride approx. 70km.

Day 10: We enter Hungary and stop in MOSONMAGYAROVAR - known from 1st century as roman fortress Arx Flexum. Along the Danube, we finish in GYOR. The town is also known as Raab. Ride approx. 90km.

Day 11: Today first stop will be small-town BABOLNA, one a famous place to get racing horses. We finish in the town TATA with a beautiful medieval castle surrounded by water channels. Ride approx. 60km.

Day 12: Today it will be "mountain lap" across Gerecse hills. You will enjoy several beautiful views on Donau. We will be invited by ESZTERGOM. The old city with a rich history dated back to the 9th century. Ride approx. 50km.

Day 13: Again on the bank of Danube river. Our bicycle path will lead us to old castle VISEGRAD originated in the 11th century. Via several other old towns, we approach the capital of Hungary BUDAPEST.

Day 14: Free time to explore BUDAPEST. End of the trip.



SAY ABOUT US

Jim!
 Thank you for showing
 us your wonderful
 country. We tried
 wonderful foods, great
 wines & beers, interesting
 architecture, and saw
 beautiful villages &
 towns. You were a
 great guide & appreciate
 your patience with us.
 Thanks again for an
 incredible week!
 Cindy & Bill

Jim
 Thank you for giving us
 an experience of a lifetime -
 for sharing your country
 with us, for your spectacular
 knowledge of history, art, and
 architecture (and many other
 things) and for being such
 a great company this past week.
 You made this trip for us!
 Sincerely,
 John and Jeff
 Helms
 Oak Ridge, TN, USA
 helmsjohn@gmail.com dot

Claude Borek
 Thank you so much for everything
 you've done for us. I was particularly
 impressed by how much you cared
 about our well being and comfort.
 You catered to our needs, age,
 and different levels of fitness.
 I had an awesome time and was
 able to disconnect from daily
 pressure of work & family.
 Give me a call if you ever make
 it to Southern California.
 Best luck in your career and
 best to you & your daughter.
 Warm regards,
 Claude
 Home: 760-939-6149
 Mobile: 951-222-0211

ATYPUS
 TOURS TO CENTRAL EUROPE
 October 2, 2010
 Dear Jim & Madeline,
 We have spent about two weeks in
 the beautiful country, but only regret is that
 we could not find a lot of information
 for places outside of Prague.
 As experienced travel travelers, we
 encourage the Czech Tourist Authority to
 develop an internet site listing of refer-
 tories and promotional material to help
 others come to your beautiful country. If
 you could offer an online
 comparison site, it would be a great job. There
 can be many more tourists and more
 money for your country.

Oct 2, 2010
 When we left home we thought this Atypus tour
 was expensive.
 We believe it has been worth the price we paid.
 Thank you for your care and attention as Jim
 and you showed us a part of your country.
 You have helped to give us great memories.
 This is just a small token of thanks
 from the two Canadians.
 Linda & David

KONTAKT US

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