

# Karlštejn

 <https://goo.gl/maps/rGFjMrwXjGEyZPG77>

## How to Get There:

There are several possibilities how to get to Karlštejn.

First of all, you can take a train. From Prague, there are several direct train and bus lines. You can check out the website of [České dráhy](#). The journey should take approximately 40 minutes.

Secondly, there is a possibility to use services of **Uniqway**, which is a carsharing made by students of ČVUT, ČZU and VŠE for students and employees of all universities in Czech Republic (Exchange students included). You can choose from 27 cars, many of which have automatic transition. There are no registration fees and there are zones right next to universities, dorms or in the city centre. There are no car keys needed: you will unlock the car via the app and your student card. You can register on this website: <https://www.uniqway.cz/en/registrace>. You will need ID (passport), student ID, driving licence. You can find more information on their website <https://www.uniqway.cz/>, or you can follow their facebook and instagram.

**You can get a discount worth of 200 CZK if you use a promotion code “ErasmusVSE”.**

Lastly, you can go by bike. The way there takes approximately 2 hours, the journey is 30 kilometres long. More details will be provided in the last section.

## Where to Eat:

We would definitely recommend taking your own snacks to this trip, especially if you travel by bike, as due to Covid restrictions, there is a possibility that some of the restaurants will be closed.

However, we would recommend a few restaurants that should be opened where you can have a lunch:

In case you would prefer to taste the Czech cuisine, check out a restaurant called U Adama, which should be located approximately 10 minutes from the Karlštejn Castle. You can find more information about them on their website: <https://restauraceuadama.cz/jidelni-listek/>

If you would prefer European cuisine or e.g. pizza, you should visit a restaurant called Karlštejn 34. It is located approximately 15 minutes' walk from Karlštejn castle. However, they are open only from Friday to Sunday, so in case you go on this trip during work days, they will be closed. You can find more information on their website: <https://www.karlstejn34.cz/>

## Accommodation Tips:

While there are restrictions in Czech Republic, it is not possible to get an accommodation. Therefore, this should be only a day trip. As Karlštejn is close to Prague and considering accommodation prices, we recommend making it only a day trip even if there are no restrictions.

If you decide to stay in Karlštejn overnight, we recommend you looking for accommodation at [Airbnb](#) or [Booking.com](#): it is usually not that difficult to find an affordable accommodation.

## Karlštejn Castle

The first stop after you arrive to the village should definitely be Castle Karlštejn, which is a large Gothic castle founded in 1348 by Charles IV, Holy Roman Emperor-elect and King of Bohemia. The castle served as a place for safekeeping the Imperial Regalia as well as the Bohemian crown jewels, holy relics, and other royal treasures. It has great views of the pleasant surrounding green countryside. You can enjoy your stay in small cafes, restaurants and shops that are located near the castle in the village.



## Quarry Velká Amerika (Big America)

Big America is often referred to as “Czech Grand Canyon”. It is a limestone quarry with a deep lake at the bottom and is frequently visited by tourists: the best view is from the opposite side of the parking lot

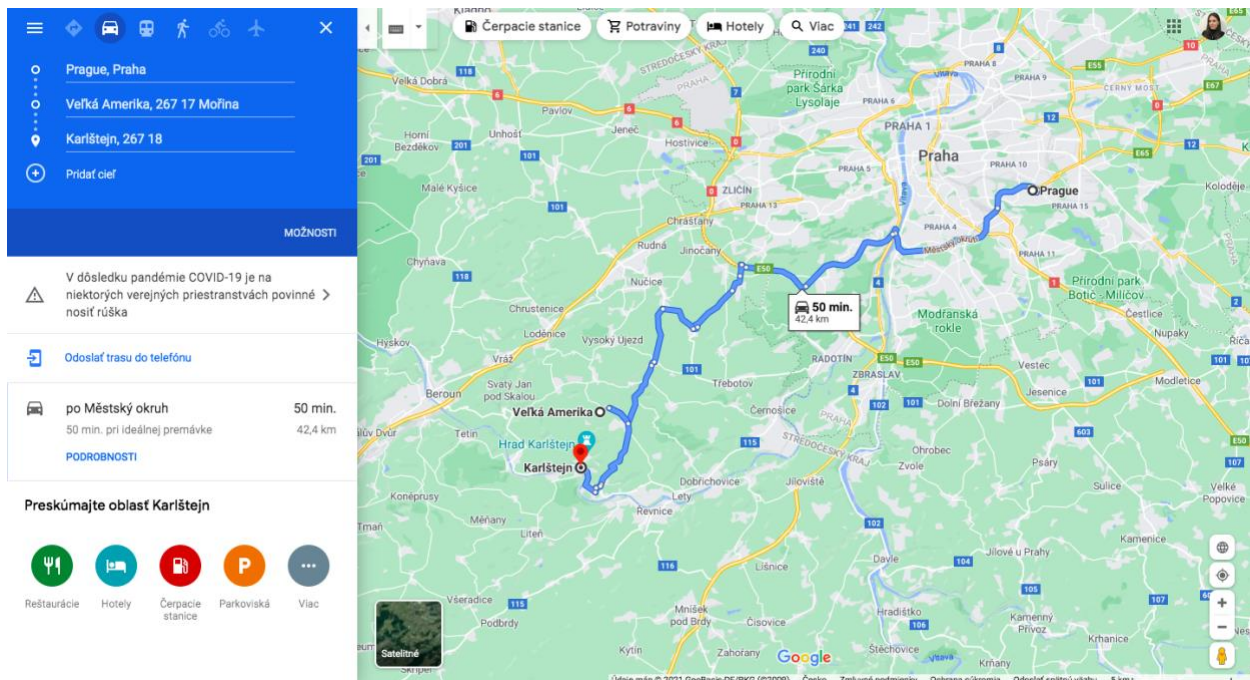


## Alternatives for your trip:

### **In case you go by car:**

If you choose to go to Karlštejn by car, we recommend to stop at the quarry Big America. If you have enough time, you can take a walk to quarry Mexico, which is a smaller, hidden brother of Big America. If you still have some time left, you can take a walk to another quarry: Malá Amerika (Small America), which is only few minutes away. I would recommend visiting this attraction on a sunny day, definitely not when it's raining as the trail would be very muddy.

You can see the road of the trip in the following picture:



### In case you go by train:

If you choose to go by train, then you should take a direct train from Prague main station to Karlštejn. If you have enough time after exploring Karlštejn, you can take a walk to the quarry Velká Amerika (Big America). The road to the quarry takes approximately 2 hours on foot and is 5,3 kilometers long with the altitude difference 178 meters, I would definitely recommend bringing a good footwear (ideally a hiking boots). Remember that you need to hike the whole way back, so make sure you are in good health and that you are fit to take such a hike. You can see the journey in the picture that you can also open with the following link:

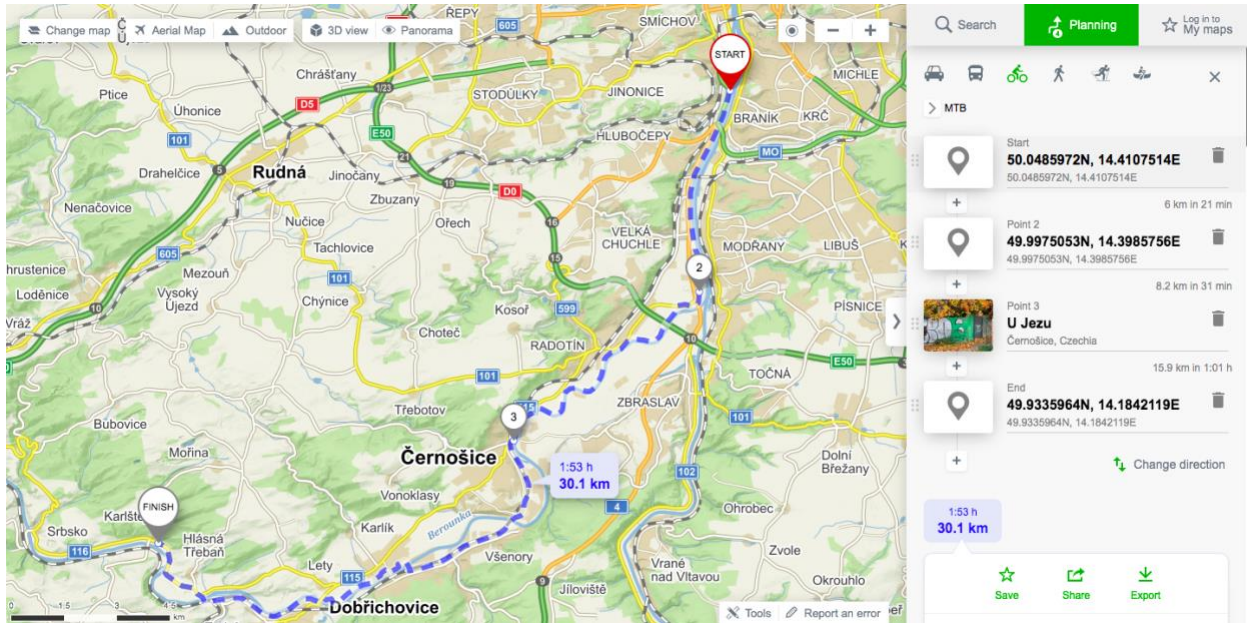
<https://en.mapy.cz/zakladni?planovani-trasy&x=14.1917858&y=49.9532038&z=14&rc=9gSudxXE675ECm5X&rs=base&rs=base&ri=1701792&ri=1892226&mrp=%7B%22c%22%3A132%7D&xc=%5B%5D&rwp=1%3B9gSglxXfsCglQhtV58jh-MgZ4g61g7cIth.g5c2DhLeep1grU>



### In case you go by bike:

In case you would prefer to go by bike, then we recommend you follow the path displayed in the picture that you can also open with the following link. The road takes approximately 2 hours and is 30 kilometers long. In case the journey there is quite a lot for you, you can take a train back to Prague. Otherwise, just take the same road back that you came there.

<https://en.mapy.cz/zakladni?planovani-trasy&x=14.2924452&y=49.9951603&z=12&rc=9g.UWxXIGs3oHxXWbQ9gmo.xXKnI9gS4CxXD6G&rs=coor&rs=coor&rs=stre&rs=coor&ri=&ri=&ri=5182033&ri=&mrp=%7B%22c%22%3A121%7D&rt=&rt=&rt=&rt>



Hope that you will enjoy this trip and in case you will take some pictures along the way and share them on your social medias, we will be glad if you would tag us on your Instagram or Facebook posts/stories (our Instagram name is **@esn vseprague** and Facebook name is **ESN VSE Prague**). Thank you in advance!