

Karlovy Vary

 <https://goo.gl/maps/7b4T4SR9fVBVZFSG7>

How to Get There:

You can buy tickets on website Regio Jet: <https://www.regiojet.com/>. We recommend taking the bus from Prague Florenc bus station at 8:30, but it is possible to buy tickets for a different time. You can also take the train from Prague Main Station. The tickets for train are available on website České Dráhy: <https://www.cd.cz/en/default.htm>. The last bus departs at 16:00 from Karlovy Vary to Prague. The price of student ticket is just 42 CZK.

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”.

Karlovy Vary:

The town of Karlovy Vary is located in the western part of the Czech Republic at the confluence of the rivers Teplá and Ohře (Eger), about 120 km from Prague. It is the largest and most famous spa town in the Czech Republic.

The town was founded in the 14th century by Charles IV. According to a legend, the emperor had it built soon after the accidental discovery of thermal springs by his hunting companions. The spa enjoyed the favour of many noble families and wealthy townsmen already in the 16th century. Due to the series of natural disasters only a few buildings from that time have survived. Most of the landmarks originate from the 18th and 19th century, when the town experienced its golden days.

One of the most popular social events is the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, which every year attracts the film fans from around the world. But the films are not only screened here. Thanking to its unique environment and architecture, Karlovy Vary has been used as a shooting location for well-known films. For example James Bond: Casino Royale.

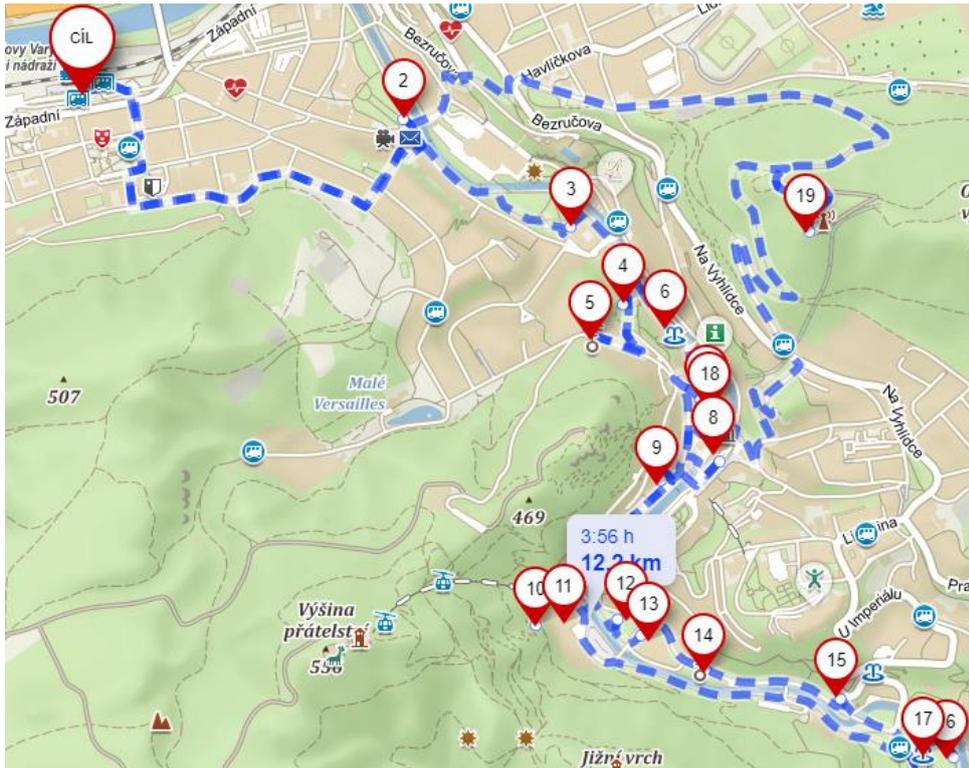
Where to eat:

If you are fan of street food, you have to go to **Bagel Lounge**. You can have a brunch, lunch or just coffee in there. The food is delicious and looks really fancy.

For lunch we recommend you Tusculum or typical Czech restaurant **Restaurace Sklipek**.

What to see:

Karlovy Vary tour is going to be pretty long, so get ready. There are going to be 19 stops and you are supposed to walk 13,4km.



1. Smetanovy sady

Your first stop is Smetanovy sady. It is a popular park in the center of Karlovy Vary with a gushing fountain and a picturesque silhouette of Elizabeth's Spa. They are named after the famous composer Bedřich Smetanová. Typical for them is a flower bed, in the middle of which is created the current date.



2. Sadova kolonada

The decorated prefabricated cast iron colonnade is the last remnant of a concert and restaurant hall called the Blanenský Pavilion, built between 1880 and 1881 according to the project of the famous Viennese architects Fellner and Helmer.

The Snake Spring has been springing here since 2001, and the spring of the Garden Spring in the basement of the Military Spa Institute is also accessible from the colonnade.



3. Skalníkovy sady

The oldest public park in Karlovy Vary built in the years 1830-1831 according to the design of the Viennese gardener Václav Skalník. There is also a column of the Dukes of Cambridge or a baroque statue of St. Bernard, standing on Bernard's Rock. The park provides beautiful views of the city's spa center.



4. Mlýnska kolonada

The pseudo-Renaissance stone colonnade was built in the years 1871-1881 according to the project of the outstanding Czech architect Josef Zíték.

The attic of the colonnade is decorated with twelve sandstone allegorical statues, representing the individual months of the year. A total of five mineral springs spring up in the interior of the largest Karlovy Vary colonnade: Mlýnský spring, Rusalka spring, Prince Václav's spring, Libuše spring and Skalní spring.



5. House of wax

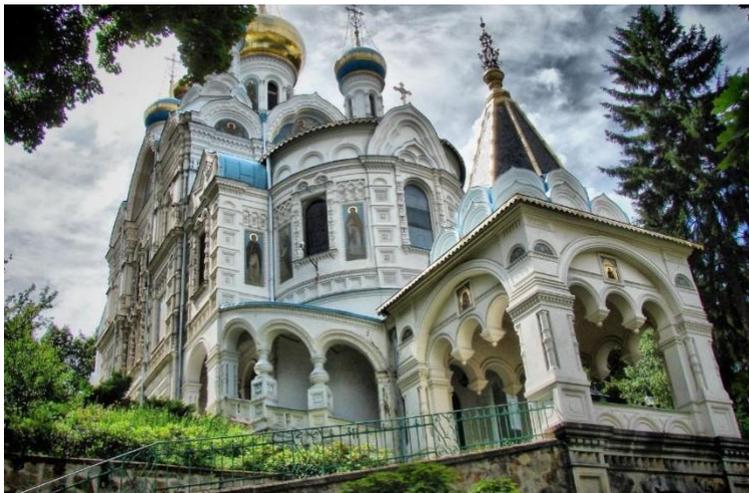
House of wax is located in the Church of Saint Lucas the neo-gothic jewel of Karlovy Vary. The wax figures are dressed in period costumes characterizing the individual personalities. They are made exclusively by hand and in the given period of their life.

You can find more information here: <https://voskovefiguriny.cz/>



6. Pravoslávny kostel sv. Petra a Pavla

Beautifully decorated Byzantine Orthodox Church of St. Peter and Paul was built in the then growing exhibition residential district of Westend in the years 1893 - 1898 according to the plans of the architect Gustav Widemann of Františkovy Lázně.



7. Zamecka věž

City tower standing in the spa center on the site of a former castle and later Baroque sounds.

The current appearance of the tower dates from 1911, when it was completed by an elevator by Friedrich Ohmann.

At present, it houses a restaurant with a gallery.



8. Vřídelní kolonáda

The modern glazed reinforced concrete colonnade in the functionalist style from 1975 covers the most popular Karlovy Vary mineral spring. The Vřídla geyser sprays here in a separate pavilion up to a height of 12 meters. The colonnade is the third colonnade building in this area.

Originally there was an Empire colonnade from 1826, replaced in 1878-1879 by a beautiful cast iron colonnade designed by Viennese architects Fellner and Helmer.



9. Taneční zvonkohra

These are nine bronze plates in the shape of a square, under which various sound elements are hidden.

By moving, bouncing or dancing on the plates, clear tones are emitted.



10. Marianska kaple

Originally a Baroque chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows, it was built around 1700 by the Count of Sternberg and his wife. In the years 1885-86 it was rebuilt in pseudo-Gothic style. In 1991, therefore, it underwent a complete reconstruction.



11. Grandhotel Pupp

Today, the Grandhotel Pupp is one of the symbols of Karlovy Vary.

It grew in its current form in the years 1892–1893 according to the plans of the Viennese architects Robert Příhoda and Josef Němeček. The Neo-Baroque reconstruction took place in 1905–1907 according to the Viennese architects Ferdinand Fellner and Hermann Helmer, who are also the authors of the Vřídlní Colonnade and the Karlovy Vary Theater.

The hotel is protected as a cultural monument of the Czech Republic.



12. Sady Karla IV.

Sady Karla IV. can be found between the buildings of the Grandhotel Pupp and the Imperial Spa. The park is named after the founder of Karlovy Vary, Charles IV., in whose honor a statue was unveiled to him in the orchards.



13. Císařské lázně

The pseudo-Renaissance two-storey building resembles a theater building with its horseshoe-shaped floor plan. The ornate architecture of the building mimics the French Renaissance, combining Renaissance and Baroque building elements with Art Nouveau decorative motifs. The interiors of the spa building concealed all the most modern conveniences of that time and unusual comfort.

The Císařské lázně building, called Lázně I since 1918, was used for balneological purposes until the end of the 1980s. Subsequently, a casino was operated in Zander Hall. From 1994, the building was eventually closed and dilapidated. In 2008, the building of the former Imperial Spa was transferred to the Karlovy Vary Region free of charge. In recent years, the spa building, which has been declared a National Cultural Monument, has undergone a gradual renovation.



14. Kostel sv. Petra a Pavla

Pseudo-Romanesque Church of St. Peter and Paul serving the Czechoslovak Hussite Church. We can find it in the spa area of Karlovy Vary on the waterfront on the right bank of the Teplá river about 100 meters east of the Císařské lázně building.



15. Dorotin altán

The Empire gazebo dates from 1791, when it was built by Count Christian Clam-Gallas in love in honor of the Duchess Dorothy of Curonia.

It stands on a lonely granite promontory in the romantic rocky valley of the Teplá river behind today's Grandhotel Pupp.

The gazebo was the first spa park building in the city.



16. Japonská záhrada

Japanese Zen Garden was founded in 1998.

The stone garden is part of a large English park around the Parkhotel Richmond and is mainly used for meditation.



17. Pramen Štěpánka

Spring Štěpánka is located in the park in front of the park hotel Richmond.

In 1993, a new well was drilled, and in 1997, an octagonal wooden gazebo by Alois Klein was built above the spring. Its temperature reaches 13 degrees.



18. Tržní kolonáda

The richly carved, wooden colonnade in the Swiss style was built between 1882 and 1883 according to the project of the famous Viennese architects Fellner and Helmer in the area of the historic market place under the Castle Tower. In the early 1990s, a complete reconstruction of the colonnade took place.

A total of three mineral springs spring up in the interior of the Market Colonnade: Charles IV Spring, Dolní Zámecký Spring and Tržní Spring.



19. Vyhlídka Tři kříže

Sometime around 1640, three large wooden crosses, a symbol of the biblical Golgotha, were erected on top of Tříkřížový vrch as an expression of the successful re-Catholicization of the town. As early as the beginning of the 19th century, reports of a great view come from the then deforested hill, accessible by a convenient road. In 1912, the construction of a cable car to the intended hotel began. World War I put an end to all plans. In the vicinity, the concrete bed of the cable car under construction, the foundations of the upper station and the torso of other buildings are still preserved.



The Tři kříže view is the last stop on your Karlovy Vary tour from where you get back to the Terminal and take bus back to the Prague

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 **@esnvseprague** and Facebook name is **ESN VSE Prague**). Thank you in advance!