

# Sister City, Spa Towns & Festivals Trip

April 27 – May 06, 2025

## April 27, 2025 – Sunday

### PRAGUE

- Arrival in Prague - an ancient European city renowned for its beauty and unique wealth of historical sights, the capital of the Czech Republic. Prague lies in the very heart of Bohemia. The town - originally founded in the 10th century on the banks of the Vltava River - is often called “golden” or “hundred-spined”. It is a treasury of arts and architecture of all styles.
- transfer from the airport to the hotel including an orientation coach tour
- accommodation at the hotel Majestic Plaza \*\*\*\*\*
- welcome dinner in a local restaurant in the *Old Town* of Prague
- overnight in Prague

## April 28, 2025 – Monday

### PRAGUE

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- half-day city tour of Prague - explore the capital of the Czech Republic with a guided sightseeing tour and visit the *Prague Castle* with famous *St. Vitus Cathedral*, picturesque *Golden Lane* and Gothic *Vladislav Hall*, continue to the historical *Lesser Town* area, across famous *Charles Bridge* and finish the tour in *Old Town* of Prague
- afternoon and evening at leisure for individual activities
- overnight in Prague

## April 29, 2025 – Tuesday

### PRAGUE-CESKY KRUMLOV-PRAGUE

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- full day excursion to Cesky Krumlov - visit the quaint and historical town reserve preserved by UNESCO in Southern Bohemia . This small medieval town, almost unchanged since the 18th century, is one of the most picturesque in Europe. *Krumlov Castle* is the second largest fortification in the Czech Republic after *Prague Castle* and certainly one of the oldest. The most ancient part is the decorated round tower dating from the second half of the 13th century. Walk through narrow streets in the town centre and visit the *Krumlov castle*, lunch included.
- return to Prague in the late afternoon
- overnight in Prague

## APRIL 30, 2025 - Wednesday

### PRAGUE-KUTNA HORA-PRAGUE

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- half-day excursion to Kutna Hora - a royal mining town and gem of Gothic architecture. It was the second most important town in the Kingdom of Bohemia in the Middle Ages, owed much of its wealth to silver mining way back in the second half of the 13th century. The *Church of St. Barbara*, patron saint of miners, is a jewel in the crown of Gothic architecture the world over.
- visit the most unique and famous *Sedlec Ossuary* (you'll definitely remember *this!*)
- return to Prague and the balance of the day is at leisure
- overnight in Prague

## MAY 01, 2025 - Thursday

### PRAGUE-KARLOVY VARY

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- travel from Prague to Karlovy Vary (formerly known in the 1500's as *Carlsbad* or *Karlsbad*) - through picturesque and, season permitting, vast blooming fields of the West Bohemian countryside. This world-famous spa has been known for centuries for medicinal mineral springs, from which you may taste, and notably its "*Vřidlo*" *Geysers*, expelling curative water up to a height of 12 m. (*Well #9* has the same mineral profile as *Carlsbad Alkaline Water* and prompted our Captain John Frazier to call his well site and our area "Carlsbad" in 1882.) It also enjoys worldwide acclaim for its beauty, porcelain and *International Film Festival* every July.
- accommodation at the hotel Grandhotel Ambassador \*\*\*\*\*
- walking tour of Karlovy Vary spa resort with local guide

- visit the Casino in Grandhotel Pupp (Site of “*Casino Royale*” and “*Last Holiday*”)
- overnight in Karlovy Vary

**MAY 02, 2025 – Friday**

**KARLOVY VARY- LOKET-JACHYMOV-KARLOVY VARY**

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- visit to *Loket Castle* – a medieval castle on a prominent rock promontory, surrounded on the three sides by the Ohre River, it is the heart of the picturesque town of Loket. Thanks to the 26m high castle tower, you can see everything from a bird’s eye view, including the square with the Baroque column of the *Holy Trinity*, the historic houses and the remains of the walls
- interior visit of the *Loket Castle*
- continue to Jachymov – a beautiful medieval town in an elongated valley cut into the slopes of the Ore Mountains - The silver Joachimsthaler coins minted here since the 16th century gave their name to the *Thaler* and, thus, the *dollar*. Today it is also famous for its radon baths
- overnight in Karlovy Vary

**MAY 03, 2025 – Saturday**

**KARLOVY VARY**

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- participation on the official opening of the spa season: parades, foods, arts & crafts
- meeting with *Madam Mayor Andrea Pfeffer-Ferklova*
- ballance of the day at leisure – spa treatments & individual activities
- overnight in Karlovy Vary

**MAY 04, 2025 – Sunday**

**KARLOVY VARY- PLZEN- KARLOVY VARY**

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- visit Pilsen, the metropolis of Western Bohemia and the home of *Pilsner Urquell*
- participate at the *Liberation Festival* (and visit the “*Thank You America*” monument)
- take a city tour of Pilsen and visit the Pilsen brewery where you taste and learn about the unique brewing process for *Pilsner Urquell* (the world’s original Pilsner style beer), visit the authentic subterranean place where *Pilsner Urquell* has been produced from the beginning
- lunch at the brewery restaurant featuring classic Czech foods
- overnight in Karlovy Vary

**MAY 05, 2025 – Monday**

**KARLOVY VARY-MARIANSKE LAZNE-FRANTISKOVY LAZNE-KARLOVY VARY**

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- full day excursion to West Bohemian Spa Triangle towns - travel south to Marianske Lazne, another historical spa town and the second largest spa resort in the Czech Republic. Carefully arranged large parks, spa forests, fountains, classic spa architecture, are features to characterize this beautiful town. Of the 140 mineral springs 39 are used for treating kidneys, respiratory and urinary disorders.
- walking tour of the spa-town, passing its romantic colonnades and parks
- lunch at local restaurant
- continue to Frantiskovy Lazne – the smallest and most charming of the spas in the West Bohemian Triangle lies in close proximity to the German border and was founded in 1793. It enchanted Goethe and a number of other notable personalities from the past. Since 2021 the town also has been listed on the UNESCO World Heritage sites.

**MAY 06, 2025 - Tuesday**

**KARLOVY VARY- PRAGUE**

- buffet-breakfast at the hotel
- coach transfer from Karlovy Vary to Prague’s airport /about a 2 hour drive
- end of services