



Masaryk University medical students booklet



Welcome

Welcome message	1
Lodging	3
Boarding	5

Faculty of Medicine

Masaryk University	7
St.Anne's University hospital	10
The University Hospital Brno - Bohnice	11
First time in the hospitals	12

Czech Republic

Country in the heart of Europe	14
Tourists destinations	16
Travelling in Czech Republic	20

Welcome to Brno

History of Brno	23
Must see in Brno	25

Brno City life

Transportation in Brno	29
Sports Venues	31
Map of Brno - WEST	32
Map of Brno - CENTRE	33
Communication	34
Czech cuisine	37
Czech beer	38
Restaurants	40
Nightlife	41
Cafés	43
Shopping	44
MIMSA & ISIC Discounts and Benefits	45

Hey first years!



Congratulations on your acceptance to the Faculty of Medicine at Masaryk University. The students at this medical faculty, converge from many different countries both inside and outside of Europe, to help form this supportive and approachable family which is known as MIMSA.

Welcome to the city of genetics, the former homes of Gregor Mendel and Jan Purkyně to name a few. As the second largest city in the Czech Republic, Brno is a hospitable town which is kept alive by students from three different universities. Apart from the obvious social advantages, Brno is a highly cultural city with lots to offer ranging from the Opera and theatre to the historical castles and buildings situated in and around Brno.

MIMSA, Masaryk International Medical Students' Association, was founded to assist the students of medicine and dentistry to enhance extracurricular activities, with the aim of bringing all of us closer together. MIMSA is also your representative to the Faculty of Medicine and Masaryk University. We endeavour towards forming a comfortable environment, so as to make Brno truly your home away from home.

Over the next few weeks, you will be settling into your new surroundings and will be flooded with new information, but don't worry, that is why we are here! If you want to get more involved with MIMSA, or have any questions about Masaryk University, medicine, life or any combination of all the above, send us an email to mimsa-info@mimsa.cz or visit our website at www.mimsa.cz. Even better, come by for a chat at the MIMSA Office, located in the basement of Komenskeho nam 2 (Medfac for short!).

I would like to end this message by inviting you to join us in the activities we have planned for you, during Orientation Week 2011. On behalf of the MIMSA Board, I look forward to seeing your faces during Orientation Week and future MIMSA events.

Yours truly,
Rita Matos
Vice - President



WELCOME MESSAGE

M²MSA

Management of Medical Students Accommodation



DORMITORY LIFE



Lodging

Student of Masaryk University can choose from 8 dormitories, located in different parts of Brno. There are differences in prices, room layout and available facilities, between each dorm. Most foreign students live in one of two dormitories: Vinarska or Kounicova. More information can be found at: www.skm.muni.cz



Koleje Vinarska

The majority of foreign students live here.

Address: Vinarska 5, 603 00 Brno

Contact: Vackova Jana: (+420) 549 49 2705 Bookings: (+ 420) 549 49 4442

Email: koleje.vinarska@skm.muni.cz

These dormitories are situated near Brno fairgrounds (10 minutes from the centre by tram/bus). The complex includes a gymnasium, snack bar, university canteen (called "menza" in Czech) and faculty of economics and administration. The accommodation capacity is 490 twin rooms, 5 triple rooms and 30 rooms for four people.

The dormitories are divided into 3 blocks: A1, A2 and A3. Most foreign students live in A1 or A2. All blocks have the same layout and facilities.

You are provided with bed linen (which can be changed once a month) and in your bedroom you can find your own wardrobe, study table, chair, kitchenette (including a fridge and doubled electric cooker), bathroom and toilet.

No kitchen utensils are provided; you will need to bring (or buy) your own!

Other facilities available at Vinarska include: internet (wired/LAN), photocopiers, washing machines (can be used for a small fee), table tennis table and music room (including a piano). To use the internet, you will be required to bring your own ETHERNET/LAN cable!

How to get there:

- 1) Tram no.1 from "**Hlavní nádraží**" (main station) heading towards "Ečerova". The stop for Vinarska is called "**Lipová**".
- 2) Buses 38 and 39, both from "**Komenského náměstí**" heading towards "Preslova". If you take bus 38, the stop is called "**Pavlíkova**", whereas for 39 it is "**Vaňkovo náměstí**".

Koleje Kounicova

Address: Kounicova 50, 602 00 Brno

Contact: The operating assistant of the hall (+420) 549 49 2718

The assistant for accommodation: (+ 420) 549 49 4570

Email: koleje.kounicova@skm.muni.cz

These dormitories are situated near the centre, on the street “Kounicova”. There are 276 twin rooms and 7 rooms for four people. Accommodation is in studios with two twin rooms, a toilet and a shower. In the room you can find a study table, bookshelf and chair.

Every 2 rooms are connected by common hall, where common bathroom and toilet can be found. Shared kitchens are in the corridor. In the dormitory building you can find a study room, TV room, pizzeria Pizza Nostra (with student discounts).

Bed linen is provided, which can be changed by residents themselves, according to the schedule on the notice board.

No kitchen utensils are provided; you will need to bring (or buy) your own!

How to get there:

- 1) Tram no. 12 or 13, from “Česká” heading towards, “TECHNOLOGICKÝ PARK” and get off at the stop “Klusáčkova”.
- 2) Trolley buses no. 34 and 36 from “Česká” heading towards “Vychodilova”, and get off at the stop “Klusáčkova”.

These connections run 7 days a week, from approximately 5:00-23:00. They are very frequent, i.e. every 10 minutes or so. Between 23:00-5:00, there are night buses, which can be caught from the same places, as mentioned above. They are less frequent, i.e. once every hour.

Electric current in the Czech Republic is 220V, and there are 2 different plug types, shown below (round pin attachment type):



Boarding:

Masaryk University provides several canteens, but not all are working during the summer holidays.

Academic restaurant

You can find this modern student canteen in the Campus Square complex just opposite the University Campus. Menza offers various kind of food even vegetarian and gluten free. You can get daily menus or special week's offer.

The menu includes:

Traditional Czech cuisine, many pizzas or steaks, fruit salads and cakes, many non-alcoholic drinks and also two kinds of beer (you have a student's discount for that).

Open daily from Mon-Fri 10:00-20:00, During weekends: 10:00-18:00

Moravské náměstí student's canteen

The canteen is located in the building of The Masaryk University rectorate. The menu has less variety but still offers at least two meat meals, one vegetarian, salads and cakes.

Open Mon-Thu 11:00-19:00, Fri 11:00-15:00

Vinařská snack bar

The canteen can be found at Vinarska dormitory next to block A1. It also offers various dishes and vegetarian options. The canteen also includes a nice cafeteria where you can get your dinner from 14:30-19:30

Open Mon-Thu 8:00-20:00, Fri 8:00-14:30

University cards

All medical students will get an ISIC card, which allows him to enter computer rooms and various departments of university and it is used for buying meals in all of the canteens. The first time you enter a canteen, you have to ask a lady at the counter to put some money to the card. The next time you would like to get your meal, you only put the card in front of the reading equipment and select the number of your meal, or give it to the lady in the counter (depends in which canteen you are in). The price of an average meal ranges from 25 to 50 Czech crowns (1 to 2 euros).

MIMS
International Medical Students Association

FACULTY OF MEDICINE



Masaryk University



Masaryk University is the second largest university in the Czech Republic and the largest in Moravia. It comprises of nine faculties with two hundred departments, institutes and clinics, which carry out activities in a wide spectrum of disciplines and areas of research. It has become one of the leading teaching and research institutions in both the Czech Republic and Central Europe.

Despite its rapid growth, the university remains the most selective in the Czech Republic in terms of the ratio of students applying for studies to the actual number of students accepted. Masaryk University was also the first higher education institution in the Czech Republic to provide prospective applicants with the opportunity to apply for studies via an electronic application form. The prestigious EUNIS Elite Award 2005 awarded to the university's Information System (IS) is proof of its leading position when it comes to the introduction of information technologies in tertiary education, being the first in Czech Republic and also the first among the new member states of the EU.

The high rate of success of Masaryk University research teams in obtaining funding for research and development projects offers striking proof that it is also a prominent research university. Science and research activities in 2005 amounted to 560 million CZK (20 million EUR). The new university campus in Brno, Bohunice, a project unique within the Central European region, offers new research opportunities and the chance to link these with teaching.

RESEARCH

Research, one of the highest priorities in Masaryk University, is evident both in the close relationship between research and education in its Doctoral and Master's degree programmes and in the number of successful research projects carried out across the whole range of disciplines that the university is engaged in. A few of the most impressive research results at Masaryk University in recent years are mentioned below:

ENZYMES WITH PHARMACEUTICAL IMPLICATIONS

A team of experts from the National Centre for Biomolecular Research at the Faculty of Science scored a major breakthrough in discovering new characteristics of enzymes that facilitate the commercial production of a number of substances, including pharmaceuticals.

STEM CELL RESEARCH

Research into blood-forming stem cells under physiologic and pathologic conditions are one of the key research programmes in the Internal Hematooncological Clinic at the Faculty of Medicine.

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH INTO CHILD DEVELOPMENT

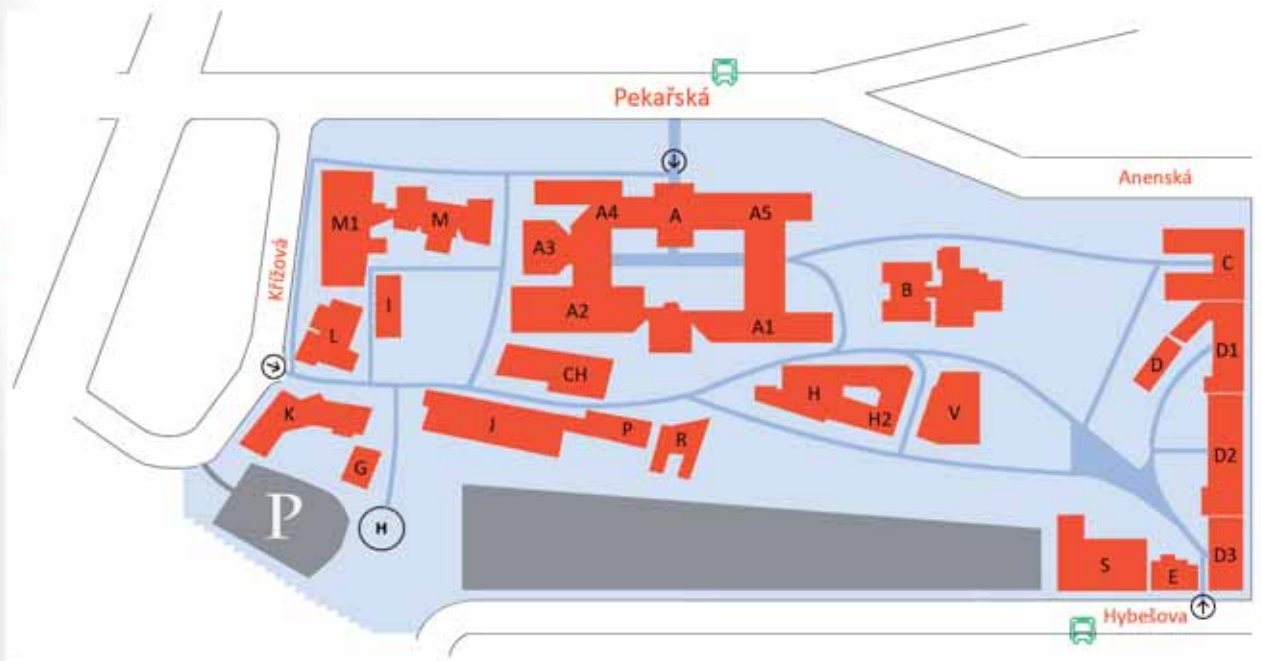
The Faculty of Social Studies; in cooperation with the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, The Faculty of Humanities of Charles University in Prague and The University of Bristol in the U.K., is carrying out longitudinal studies of the mental, social and health development of children.

INFORMATICS AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Laboratory of Optical Microscopy at the Faculty of Informatics is concerned with the development of computer-operated devices based on optical microscopes that are capable of independent scanning and analysis of images of cells and their parts, allowing 3D imaging.

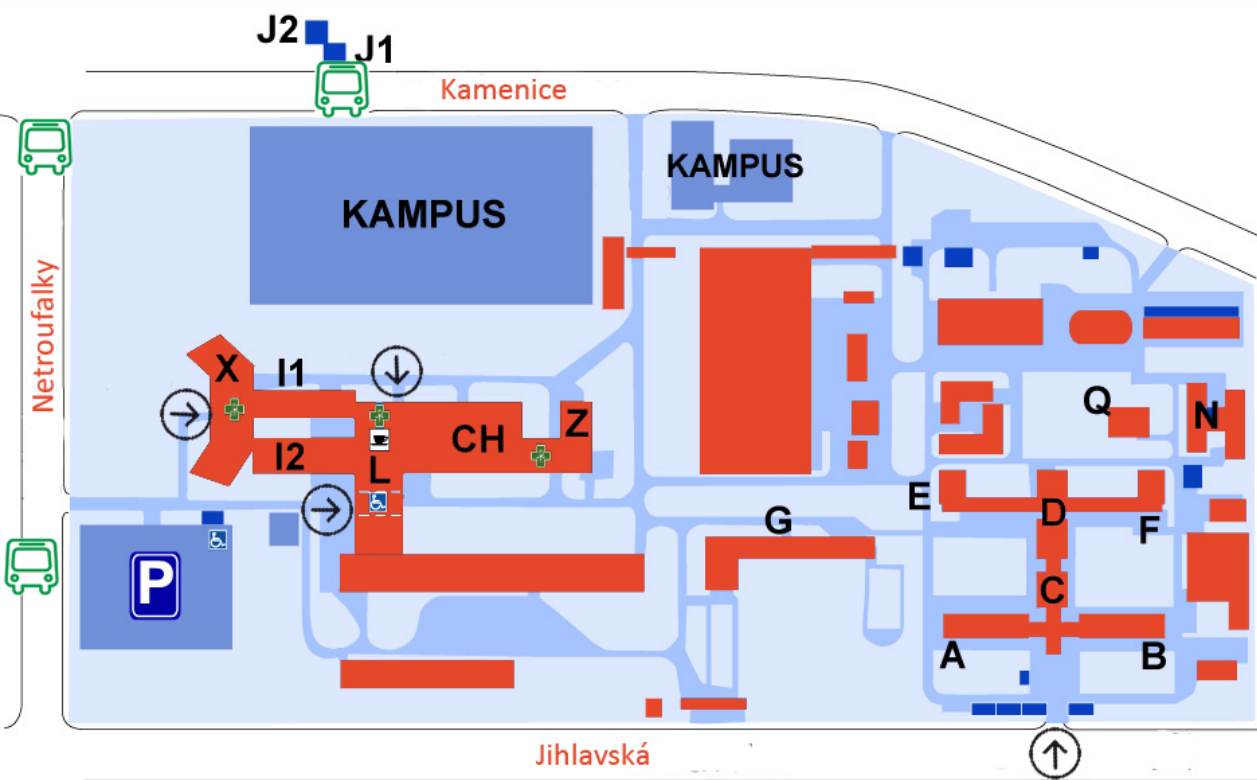
HOSPITALS





St. Anne's University Hospital

- A, CH** Department of Ophthalmology and Optometry
- A,A5** Department of Oncological Surgery
- A1** Department of Clinical Psychology
- A1** 1st Department of Orthopaedics
- A2** 2nd Department of Surgery
- A2,J** Department of Urology
- A5** Department of Gynaecology
- A5** Department of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery
- A5,M** Department of Imaging Methods
- B** 1st Department of Internal Medicine - Cardioangiology
- C** Department of Neurology
- D1** Department of Clinical Biochemistry
- D2** 1st Department of Dermatology and Venereology
- D2,E** Department of Functional Diagnostics and Rehabilitation
- D3** Department of Clinical Haematology
- H,H2** Institute of Pathologic Anatomy
- J** Department of Neurosurgery
- J,P** 2nd Department of Internal Medicine
- K** Institute of Clinical Immunology and Allergology
- M, M1** 1st Department of Surgery
- P** Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care
- S** Department of Stomatology
- V** Institute of Microbiology



The University Hospital Brno-Bohunice

- A Department of Pulmonary diseases and Tuberculosis
- B Department of Infectious diseases
- F Department of Dermatology and Venereology
- G Department of Psychiatry
- CH Department of Surgery
- I1 Department of Pathology
- I2 Department of Haematology
- L Department of Surgery, Department of Haematooncology
- X Departments for Diagnostics and Therapy
- Z Department of Gynaecology

First time in the hospitals

During your visit to the hospitals, please be prepared for the fact that, tutors speak English but most patients don't.

Czech health care system

Works on the European pluralite type of health care. We have excellent government hospitals that serve the healing patients with general care. The health care system has two sectors: public and private. By law, all citizens staying in the Czech Republic must have some health insurance. You (as a student of Masaryk Univeristy, Faculty of Medicine) are insured by the University against damage done at work and any injuries.

Recommended clothing

In Czech Hospitals you have to wear a white lab coat. If you are studying Dentistry, you must have white clothes - t-shirt, trousers, socks and white slippers/shoes (not dirty ones from street). It is possible to buy all the necessary clothing here.



CZECH REPUBLIC



Country in the heart of Europe

The Czech Republic is in the middle of Europe. With its population of over ten million inhabitants and an area over 78 000 square kilometres, it belongs to one of the smaller countries from the former eastern block. By its location, it is one of the most important transit countries.

Our state has a multiparty parliamentary democracy headed by president Václav Klaus.

Czech economy with a situation of 82% of the European Union average is considered to one of the most stable and prosperous of the post-Communist states. Recent growth has been led mostly by export to Germany.

It was founded on 1st January 1993, when Czechoslovakia broke up into The Czech Republic and Slovakia. It became a member of OECD in 1995, NATO in 1998 and EU in May 2004.

The country is historically and culturally divided into three main regions - Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia. The country is also divided into 14 administrative regions.

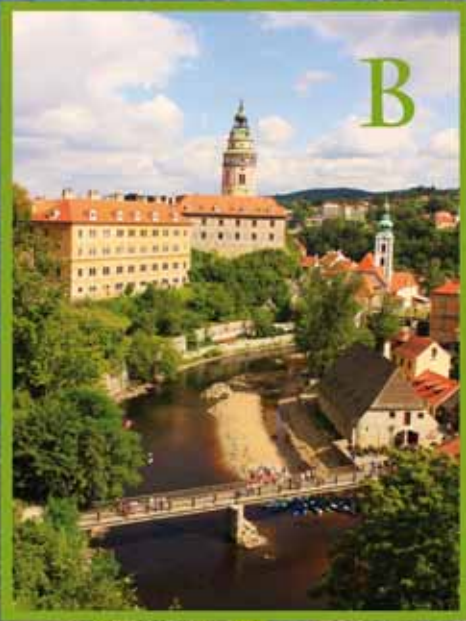
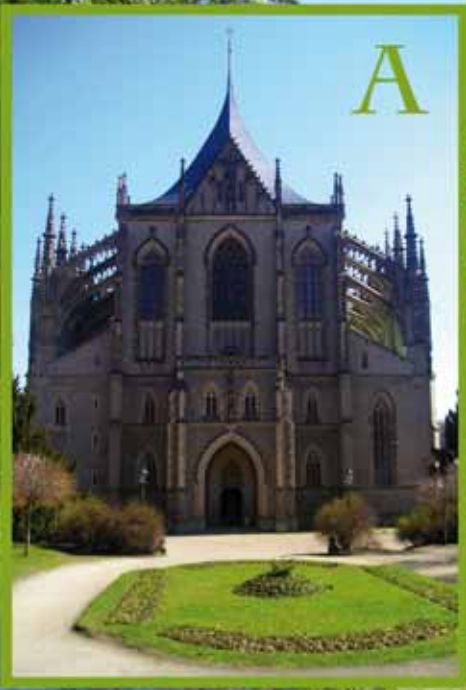
The capital is Prague, which is also the biggest city in the Republic (population over one million) and the administrative centre. It is the siege of the President, the Government, the Parliament of the Czech Republic and the Major Court. The second most important and largest city is Brno.

The majority of people living in the Czech Republic are Czech. Minorities living in the Czech Republic (almost 2%) include Slovaks, Polish, Germans and the Romanians.

The Czech Republic is one of the least religious countries in the world. Over sixty percent of people consider themselves as atheists. The majority of these atheists like to say: "I believe in something above us". The majority of religious people are Roman Catholics and Evangelical Catholics.

The country has a continental climate. You should prepare for a relatively hot summer and a cold winter with ice and snow.

The Moravian region is the hottest and driest region in the Czech Republic. It is great for planting vegetables, fruits and also wine.



TOURIST DESTINATIONS

Czech Republic tourist destinations

Even though the Czech Republic is a small country in the middle of Europe, a lot of tourists visit every year, because it has much to offer. These tourists search especially for monuments, which are unprecedented in the world and also for natural beauties, which are the boast of this land. The borders of the country are created by mountains, which protect architectural treasures inside.



Prague

The capital of the Czech Republic is Prague. This city is the centre of state institutions, courts, various organizations and companies, political parties, religious associations, universities etc. **Prague castle** is dominant, which is the traditional residence of Czech monarchs and since 1918 it has been a residence of the Czech president. In the third yard, there is **St.Vitus cathedral**. It is the main and also the biggest cathedral in Prague. It is actually devoted to three saints of Czech history. These are St.Vit, St.Vojtech and St.Vaclav-a patron and protector of Czech lands. In the area of Prague castle, there are a lot of various churches. For instance, St.George's basilica, St.Cross` chapel and St.George's monastery. Apart from these, there are pleasant grounds around the whole complex, e.g. **The golden street**, which is full of very small houses, where goldsmiths used to live. Nowadays there are galleries, museums and stalls with souvenirs.

The Golden street ends with the tower Daliborka. It is a turret from the 15th century with a dungeon.

Vltava is the longest river of the country and flows through Prague. There are

many bridges across the river in Prague and the most interesting and important of them is **Charles bridge**. It is located at the place of the original Judita's bridge which was destroyed by a flood. Charles bridge is from the 14th century when Karel IV was the king of the Czech lands. At the bridge, there are many statues of Czech saints. Well-known are St.Jan of Nepomuk or St.Cyril and St.Methodius.

Prague is full of squares. The most interesting of them are Václavské náměstí (Wenceslas square) and Staroměstské náměstí (Old Town Square). At the top of Václavské náměstí is the National museum and the statue of St.Václav. The major attraction of Staroměstské náměstí is the Old Town Hall with astronomical clock - **Staroměstský Orloj**. Other monuments which can be found in the centre include: The National theatre, Vysehrad Castle, The Jewish Quarter and Petrin Hill.

The whole historical centre of the city is included in the list of UNESCO world heritage sites. Historical monuments are not the only wealth of Prague. There are a lot of modern buildings. For instance, the **Dancing house** at the quay of Vltava. Prague is a city, but there are areas where nature is untouched. For example, Petrin gardens are ideal for walks and for view of the city, because there is the Petrin tower. The template for this building was The Eiffel Tower in Paris (It is a miniature version of it).

Kutná Hora

An urban conservation area, which played an important role in silver mining in 13th century. The whole city is surrounded by forests. The heart of the town is a scenic square with romantic restaurants. The most visited monument is St.Barbora's cathedral, which is situated near the centre of the city. Apart from this cathedral you can find other historical monuments, which are worth seeing, such as the Czech museum of silver and medieval mine, Stone house or Stone fountain. We recommend you to visit the famous ossuary. It is a remarkable experience for medical student.

Český Krumlov

The city lies on the banks of Vltava around the originally gothic castle complex. It's architectural heritage has remained intact for more than five centuries. There is the second most extensive castle grounds after Prague castle in the republic. The monumental reservation includes over 300 Gothic and Renaissance buildings. Český Krumlov is an important centre of culture, because there are six museums, a well-known City theatre and in the summer the actors act out in the garden of the castle in a revolving auditorium.

Telč

The square of Telc is flanked by a set of gothic and renaissance burgher houses with arcades. Houses have renaissance, baroque and classical shields. The square directs to the original gothic and renaissance castle from the 15th century with a nice renaissance garden and an English park. Other important monuments include: the area of the former Jesuit college of the holy name of Jesus, a late gothic Church of St.Ghost,

a spirit parish Church of St. James from the 14th century, the Marian column and two baroque fountains in the square.

Lednicko-Valtický areál

Princes of Liechtenstein transformed their estate between the 17th and 20th century in a big park. This area is among the most modified landscapes in Europe. Adjustments were based on the principles of the English parks. Here you can find the baroque architecture, the neo-gothic architecture or castles and small buildings built in the romantic style. These are Glasshouse, Minaret, New court, Temple of three graces, Obelisk etc.

Olomouc

The city is situated in the middle of central Moravia. For its unique atmosphere, it is a popular center of international conferences and festivals. Olomouc is, next to Brno, the second historical and political center of Moravia. Nowadays the Palacky university is situated in Olomouc and also the archdiocese. The city is the spiritual and educational centre. An important monument is the Column of The Holy Trinity. This pillar, erected in the 18th century, reaches a height of 35 meters. This unique piece of architecture is characterized as „Olomouc baroque“. The column is decorated with many statues and sculptures and is the largest in central Europe.

Žďár nad Sázavou

The city is important thanks to the church at the Green hill „Zelená hora“. The pilgrimage church dedicated to St. John of Nepomuk was built during the years 1719-1722. It is a masterpiece of the architect Santini and the most original example of the so-called „baroque gothic“. It is built in a five-pointed star and is surrounded by a cemetery and chapels. Around this circuit turn five chapels each with triangular floor plans and a layout with five chapels in an oval shape. The second attraction is the Museum of Books which is the only one in central Europe.

All of these previous cities belongs to the list of UNESCO world heritage sites.

Hluboká nad Vltavou

The castle is the biggest attraction for visitors. It is a neo-gothic monument built in the Tudor gothic style, following the model of the English Royal Windsor castle. Moreover, there are more attractions: Ohrada zoo, a luxury golf course, the princely court and Alš's South Bohemian gallery where you can see a collection of sculptures and paintings by Dutch painters from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Slavkov u Brna

A town known as Austerlitz abroad. It is an important place of European history, because The Battle of Three Emperors took place there on December 2nd 1805. The Napoleon army defeated the Austrians and the Russians.

You can visit: Peace memorial at the Zuran hill where Napoleon had his main tent. A Baroque castle with an imposing garden in a French and an English style in the centre of the town. Nowadays, there is a historical museum which offers a multimedia presentation of the battle.



Czech nature

The Czech Republic is surrounded by mountains, which historically protected the Bohemia for centuries from invasions. To the North, one can find Krkonose, which is one of the highest mountains in the region and its peak, Snezka is a truly unforgettable sight. To the South-West, we can find Sumava, and its summit, Arber. These mountains, are one of the oldest in the whole of Europe and it forms the border with Germany. The Vltava River boasts a truly awesome engineering construction, the Lipno Dam, which makes the largest water area of the republic. To the East, one finds Beskydy, which are forested mountains constructed of rounded peaks and they make the borders between Poland and Slovakia. To the South you can find Pálava. Pálava is a protected area with untouched nature, 30 km away from Brno. It starts from the village Pavlov and finishes around the city of Mikulov and the state border with Austria. The local landscape is very preserved and thanks to that you can meet a lot of rare animals and plants. There are important archeological areas, because this place was constantly inhabited for thousands years.

Travelling in the Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic you can travel quite easily to almost everywhere. There are many ways and companies to travel with. Here we have recommended just a few of them for you:

BUSES:

Student Agency (www.studentagency.cz):

This company offers long distance coaches, to many different Czech and European cities (e.g. Olomouc, Hradec Kralove, Plzen, Vienna, Berlin, Munich, Paris, Amsterdam etc.). Advantages of this company are high standards of the on-board services such as steward, free drinks, free Wi-Fi, free magazines and newspapers, watching movies and listening to the radio. For buses to Prague or Vienna Airport, you must change at the Main Bus Stations, Florenc and Praterstern respectively. The bus stop in Brno is called "Grand Hotel bus station". You can reserve any journey online, pay electronically, and then you just need to print the ticket or remember your ticket number.

- Journey **Brno - Prague (Florenc)** takes approximately 2H 30Min, price is 200 CZK or 250 CZK to Ruzyně airport (200 km) .
- Journey **Brno - Vienna (Center)** takes approximately 2H, price is 190 CZK from Praterstern bus station (downtown) or 310 CZK from Schwechat airport (150 km).
- Journey **Brno - Bratislava** takes approximately 2H, price is 220 CZK and you must take a separate bus to the Airport (100 km).

Megabus (www.megabus.cz)

Megabus is another company offering connections to Czech and European cities as well. You can also book your journey via the internet.

Eurolines (www.eurolines.cz)

Another company with similar offers to almost the whole of Europe like the companies mentioned above.

ČSAD (www.jizdnirady.cz)

This bus company goes to almost every place in the Czech Republic. You can visit many places with them - castles, villages, town, cities etc. Normally you can buy tickets from the drivers.

Tourbus (www.tourbus.cz)

Tourbus offers one of the cheapest connections between Prague and Brno.



BUS STATIONS:

Prague

- **Florenc** bus station (Metro station Florenc, lines B and C)

Brno (2 different!!):

- **Hotel Grand** bus station (companies: Student agency, Megabus)
- **Zvonařka** bus station (companies: Tourbus, Eurolines, ČSAD etc.)

Trains:

České dráhy (ČD) (www.cd.cz): In the Czech Republic, unfortunately we have only one major rail company called České dráhy (ČD). Travelling by rail, for a single person is more expensive than travelling by bus, but it is cheaper if there is a group of people travelling (third and every other pays only 50% of the price). Trains depart from **Hlavní nádraží** (Main Railway Station).

Flights:

Although there is an airport in Brno called **Tuřany**, there are not many flights to and fro. From this Airport there are flights to Rome and London (Luton) by Wizzair and to London (Stansted), Milan and Alicante by Ryanair. Most students travel via two main airports - **Ruzyně in Prague** (Czech Republic) and **Schwechat in Vienna** (Austria). Both are approximately 200km away from Brno. There are direct connections (or with one transfer) from both airports services by companies (e.g. Student Agency).

TRAVELLING IN PRAGUE

You need to have a ticket for public transportation:

- 26 CZK, 90 minutes
- I recommend you, to get a SMS ticket: www.dpp.cz/en/sms-ticket on your mobile phone - write the text: DPT and send it to the phone number **902 06 26**.
- Bus No. 119 to Bus/Metro station Dejvicka (line A), to get to Florenc station you have to change at Muzeum station to line B
- Bus No. 100 to Bus/Metro station Zlicin (line B) and directly to Florenc station

M?MSA

WELCOME TO BRNO



History of Brno



The surroundings of Brno were settled into, around 4000 BC, when the first agricultural colonies were founded.

In approximately 1020 AD Brno castle was built by Duke Bretislav and a small colony on the bank of the river Svatka started to spread. In 1243 the villages of Brno were united and Brno got the royal town privileges. Famous Cistercian nunnery (monastery for nuns) was founded by Queen Eliska Rejcka. During the following centuries, the town was surrounded by fortifications and its importance rose. Brno became a prominent meeting point of three big trade-routes leading from Poland, Austria and Hungary.

In the Thirty Years War the city was besieged by Swedish forces, who did not manage to conquer the city. That big Swedish defeat prevented them from marching against Vienna and gave more time to create an Austrian offence and end the war promptly.

Following the war, the city became a forcible baroque fortress. In 1742, the Prussian army tried to capture the city but they also broke their teeth on it. Shortly after that the bishopric was established on the hill Petrov.

On December 2nd 1805, The Three Emperors' Battle was fought in Austerlitz (Slavkov) near Brno. The Napoleon army defeated the Austrians and the Russians.

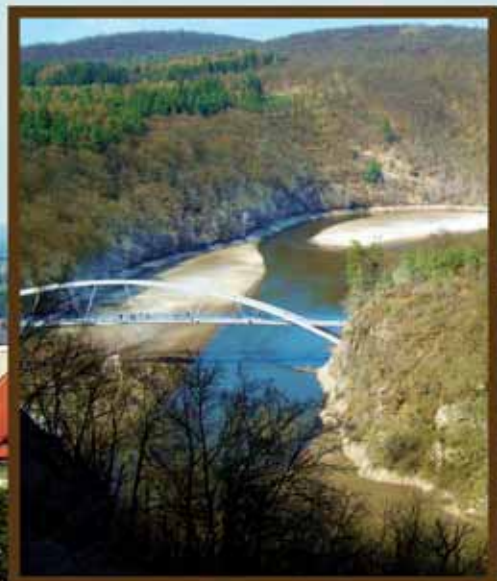
In the 19th century, the fortifications were demolished and the city enlarged in Vienna's architecture style. In this time, J.G.Mendel laid the foundations of genetics at the monastery in Old Brno. During the First Republic (1918-1938), the university was established and named after the first Czechoslovakian president T.G.Masaryk.

The second world war was devastating. The city was controlled by the Gestapo from Spilberk and many citizens were murdered in Kounicova dormitories by SS troops. After the war, all german inhabitants were deported.

The next communist era brought economical stagnation. Fortunately the city was changing into a lovely metropolis. Many finances were invested into science and education. In 2007 the University Campus for medical and natural sciences became functional and by September 2010, it was officially completed and opened. Since then, Masaryk University has become the most modern university building in central Europe.

M:MSA
Medical Students Association

MUST SEE IN BRNO



Must see in Brno



Spilberk castle

The baroque fortress with Petrov hill dominates the skyline of Brno.

The old castle was founded by King Premysl Otakar II in 1277. In the 14th century, autonomous Luxembourgs reigned here. During the centuries the castle was transformed into a forcible baroque fort. The fort resisted all swedish attacks during the battle of Brno (1643) under Raduit de Souches leadership.

In the 18th century, Spilberk became a nightmare for the whole of Europe. The terrific prison was built in Kasematy. The heaviest prison in the Austrian-Hungarian empire was called „dungeon of nations“. This prison was closed as late as 1961.

Nowadays, you can find a museum there. Many famous festivals such as Ignis Brunensis, Summer Shakespeare festival and iron fencing exhibitions take place there.

Petrov

This church was built on the rocky edge of the old part of the city. Together with Spilberk they make up an incommutable panorama of Brno. We can find the cathedral of St. Paul and St. Peter and the Bishop's residence there.

The cathedral of St. Paul and St. Peter is the oldest Cathedral in Brno, its beginnings are dated to 11-12th century.

It was rebuilt into a gothic church in the 14th century and it was given the final form in the years 1904 and 1905 when the two towers, the dominating features, were built in neogothic style.

You can find Petrov on one of the Czech coins.

Freedom square (Náměstí Svobody)

The dominating feature of the city centre, the square of triangular shape, is Namesti Svobody. The first thing that you may notice is the plague column and Skacel's public fountain where the parts of his poems are written.

The whole square is bordered by bourgeois houses where historical elements together with modern ones are gently mixed.

The square is an attractive place especially when traditional Christmas and Easter markets take place. Do not forget the every-year November gustation of wine from the Czech fields. It is a unique experience.

Česká street

The pedestrian zone going from the northwest part of Namesti Svobody and leading to Jostova - where many tram stops can be found.

Looking for a great place, where anyone meets anyone? You can't miss Česka street, the biggest meeting point where young couples have dates under the clock, classmates start their way around pubs and children wait for their mums. Every day and night time, you can meet someone here.

Vila Tugendhat

The jewel of functionalism is situated in the Cerna pole quarter. It was created by famous architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe for Mr and Mrs Tugendhat in 1928. Because of their Jewish origin, they had to escape and the house was used by Willy Messerschmidt, a German aircraft engineer. After the second World War, Red army ruined almost the whole interior. After the Velvet revolution, the house was reconstructed and in 2001 its importance was declared by its inclusion in UNESCO patrimony.

Capuchin crypt

The crypt is situated in the basement of Elevation of the Holy Cross Church near Masarykova street. There you can find mummified bodies of more than 50 people, monks and Aristocrats from the 18th century. The bodies were mummified just by air and you can admire their whole physiognomy. The body of famous Baron Trenck, a leader of dragoon regiment (one kind of Brno beer is named in his honor) and St.Clementine relics are buried there.

Jundrov forest

If you want to get rest in a forest within the city of Brno, you should go to Jundrov. The wide forest-park is just few minutes by tram from the centre. Many pavements cross this park. You can meet mouflons, deer, wild pigs and many other animals there.

How to get there: the bus No. 52 from Mendel square ("Mendlovo namesti"), it's the stop "Stara dalnice".

Brno Exhibition Centre

This fairground is most important exhibition ground in the Czech Republic. It is situated in Pisarky valley near Mendel square. It was founded in 1928. The pavilions were designed by elite architects of that era. Many exhibitions such as the international machine, industries exhibit, invex, the concerts of the best rock bands like Linkin Park, Rolling Stones can be seen here.

How to get there: tram No. 1, tram stop called 2Výstaviště".

The University campus

The complex of the most modern university buildings in Europe. It is situated next to the university hospital of Brno. The theoretical departments of Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Sports Studies are situated there.

Take a bus No. 60 or 61 to bus stop "Nemocnice Bohunice" or you can take a trolley bus No. 25 from Mendel square to the same bus stop.

Prehrada (dam)

This 10 kilometres long dam, also called the "Sea of Brno", used to be one of the most frequent recreation areas, where boats were anchored and the green meadows around attracted people for long walks. It is still a very popular centre for relaxation and sports activities, especially the water sports such as windsurfing, canoeing, sailing, fishing and many more. With regrets we have to say, that swimming in the dam is at your own risk because of cyanobacteria.

The best way how to get there is to take tram No.1 and get out at the "Přístaviště station".

If you want to take a longer walk, go to the north to the Veveri castle.

Veveri castle

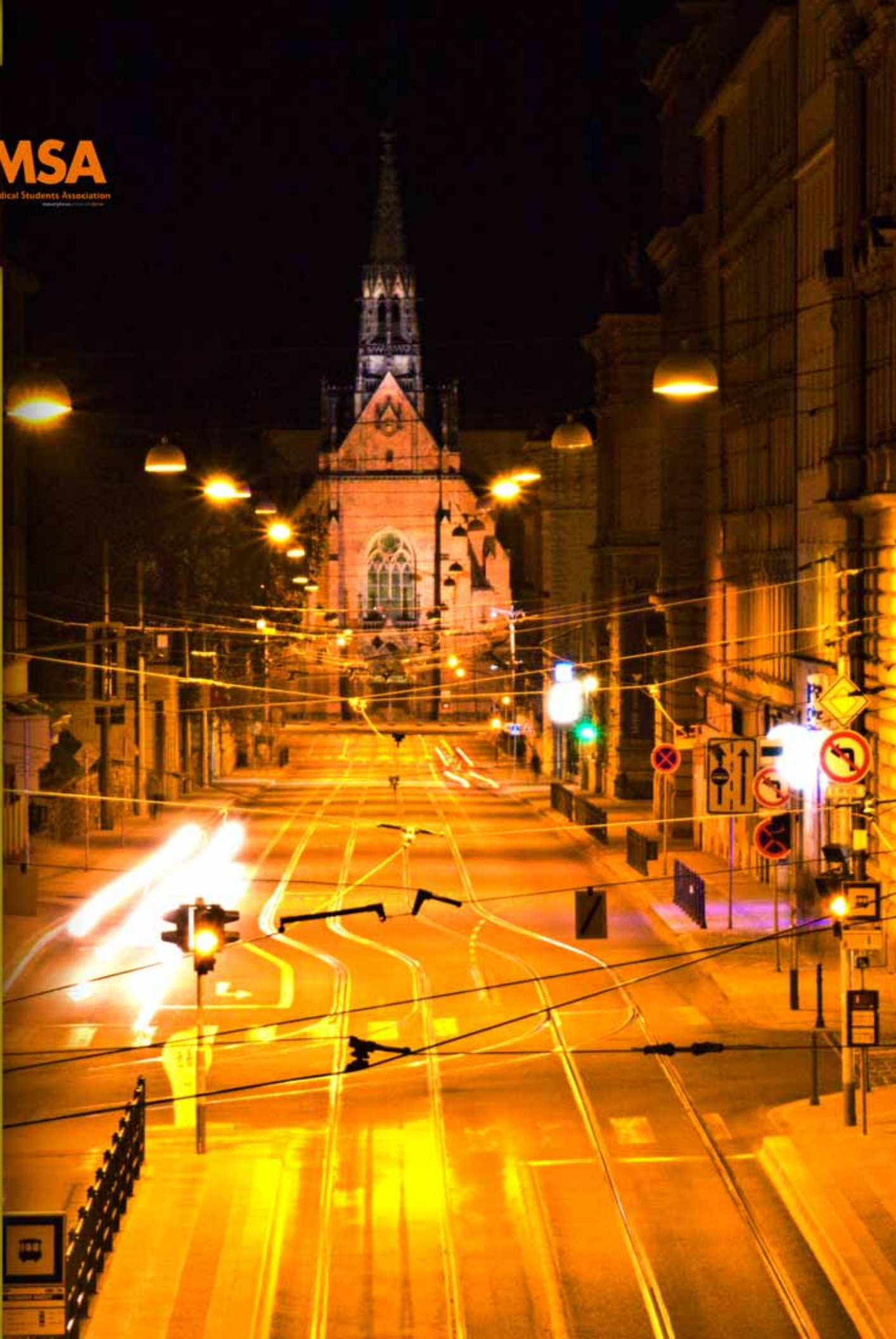
The castle is lying upon the river Svatka in the north end of Brno dam. This gothic castle was founded in the 13th century. During centuries a small manor was transformed into a large castle with huge fortifications and towers. In 19th century countess Ypsilanti rebuilt the surroundings into parkside with glasshouses.

The area surrounding the castle is hilly and woody, it is a good choice for having a picnic because of the nice view of the dam. You can get there by bus, bike or by boat across the dam.

MIMSA

Masaryk International Medical Students Association

BRNO CITY LIFE



Transportation in Brno

General information

The city of Brno and its surroundings are serviced by a public transport system with unified travel tickets, which can be used for travelling by trams, buses, trolley-buses, minibuses, boats and trains (limited distance). This company is called Dopravní podnik města Brna (abr. DPMB) - in English it is called - Brno Public Transportation Company. (www.dpmb.cz)

Tickets

Before each journey, you must have a ticket and validate it

immediately after boarding the vehicle. During changes, tickets do not need to be further validated.

The validity of a ticket is time and zone limited. If you travel around Brno you don't have to buy any tickets with extra zones. The ticket is valid from the moment it is validated for a period specified on it and only in those tariff zones marked on the ticket.

All tickets are transferable, except the 10 minutes ticket (this one is valid only in the vehicle, where it was already validated).



LEGEND TO PICTURE

- A ... ticket number
- B ... type of ticket
- C ... time validity of ticket
- D ... zone validity of ticket
- E ... how tickets are used
- F ... price
- G ... print for marking:

- 1 ... symbol of carrier
- 2 ... vehicle number
- 3 ... line
- 4 ... zone
- 5 ... date of punching

(day, month and the two last digits of year)

- 6 .punching(hours:min)

Tickets are sold at ticket vending machines at transport hubs and important stops, tobacconists, outlets of the Brno Public Transportation Company and drivers.

Most important tickets

NO. OF ZONES	VALIDITY	Price - BASIC	Price - REDUCED
2	10 min. (no transfer)	14 CZK	7 CZK
2	15 min.	18 CZK	9 CZK
2	60 min.	22 CZK	11 CZK

Losing a ticket, forgetting travelling pass, ticket control

You need to have a validated ticket during your entire journey. (That means you have to validate it immediately after getting on board). In every vehicle, there can be ticket inspectors. These are casually dressed men or women, which will show you a card or metal badge of Brno Public Transportation Company. You have to show them your ticket or pass. If you don't have any of these, you will have to pay a fine, **700 CZK** if you pay immediately or within 5 working days, **1000 CZK** if you pay later. If you own a pass and you just simply forgot to take it with you, you have to (to avoid paying the full fine) bring it within 5 working days to an outlet of transportation company and you will pay a fine of **50 CZK**. Should you lose anything when travelling, ask any driver for assistance. All found items are deposited, the following day, at the Lost and Found Office, Malinovského nám. 3, Tel. No. +420 542 173 012

Transportation during a night

Between **23:00 and 5:00** there are no trams, trolley-buses or casual running buses. During this time there are **night buses** assigned by numbers 89-99. These gather together in front of the Main railway station and leave together at specific times:

- Friday and Saturday nights - 23:00, 23:30, 0:00, 0:30...every half an hour until 5:00; night before a working day (e.g. Wednesday or Sunday) - 23:00, 23:30, 0:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00

BEWARE OF PICKPOCKETS!!!

Sports Venues



Kraví Hora Swimming Pool

End of tram no.4.

more info: www.kravihora-brno.cz

Sprint Tennis

Indoor/outdoor tennis courts and indoor badminton courts

more info: www.sprinttennis.cz

Fitness Centrum Průvan and Fitness Centrum Velký Průvan

Tram 2 or 6 (tram station Celní)

more info: www.posilovna-pruvan.cz

e-mail: velkypruvan@gmail.com

address: Vídeňská 77

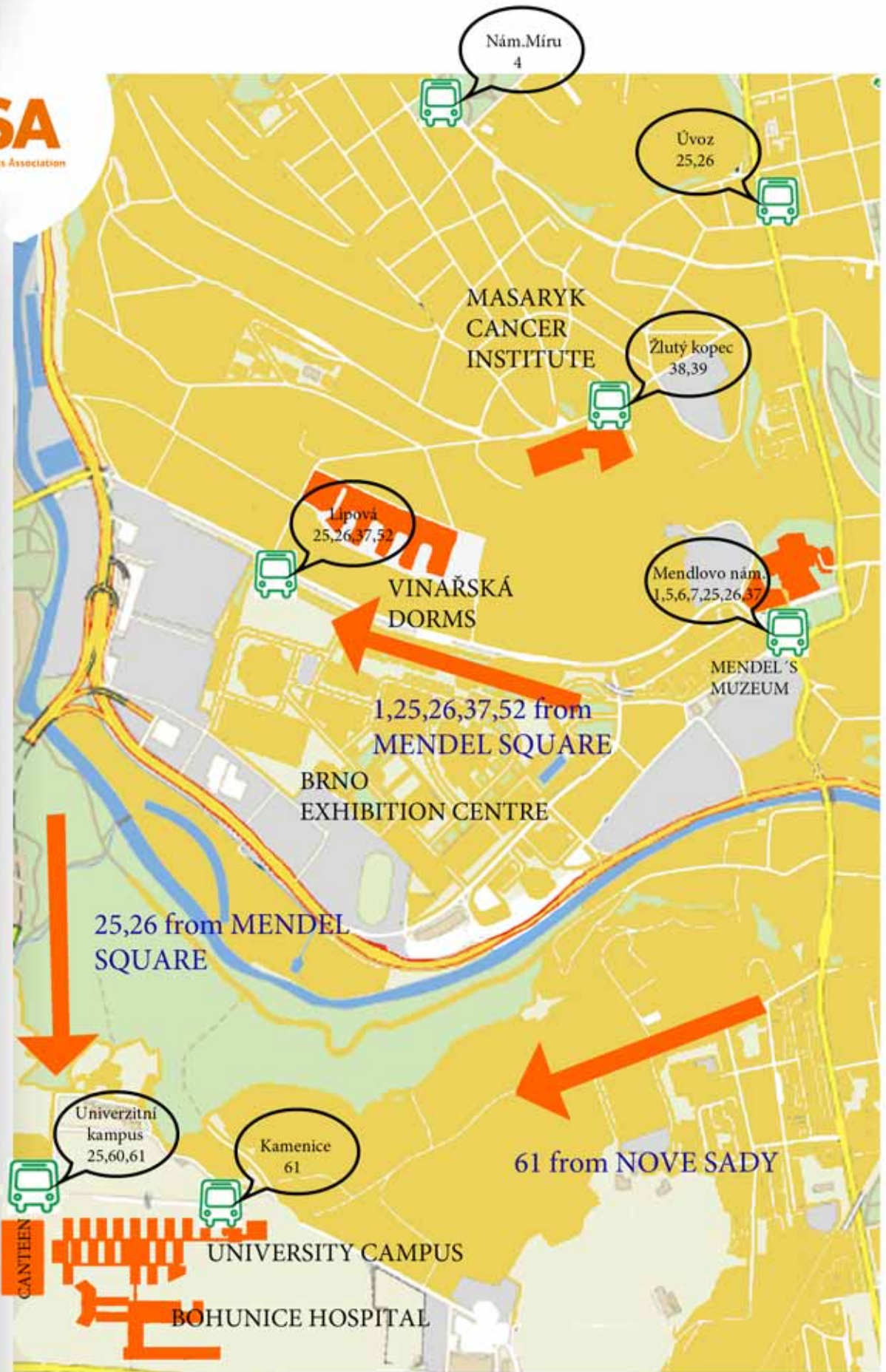
Fitness 3000 (Gym)

more info: www.fitness3000.cz

e-mail: fitnes3000@seznam.cz

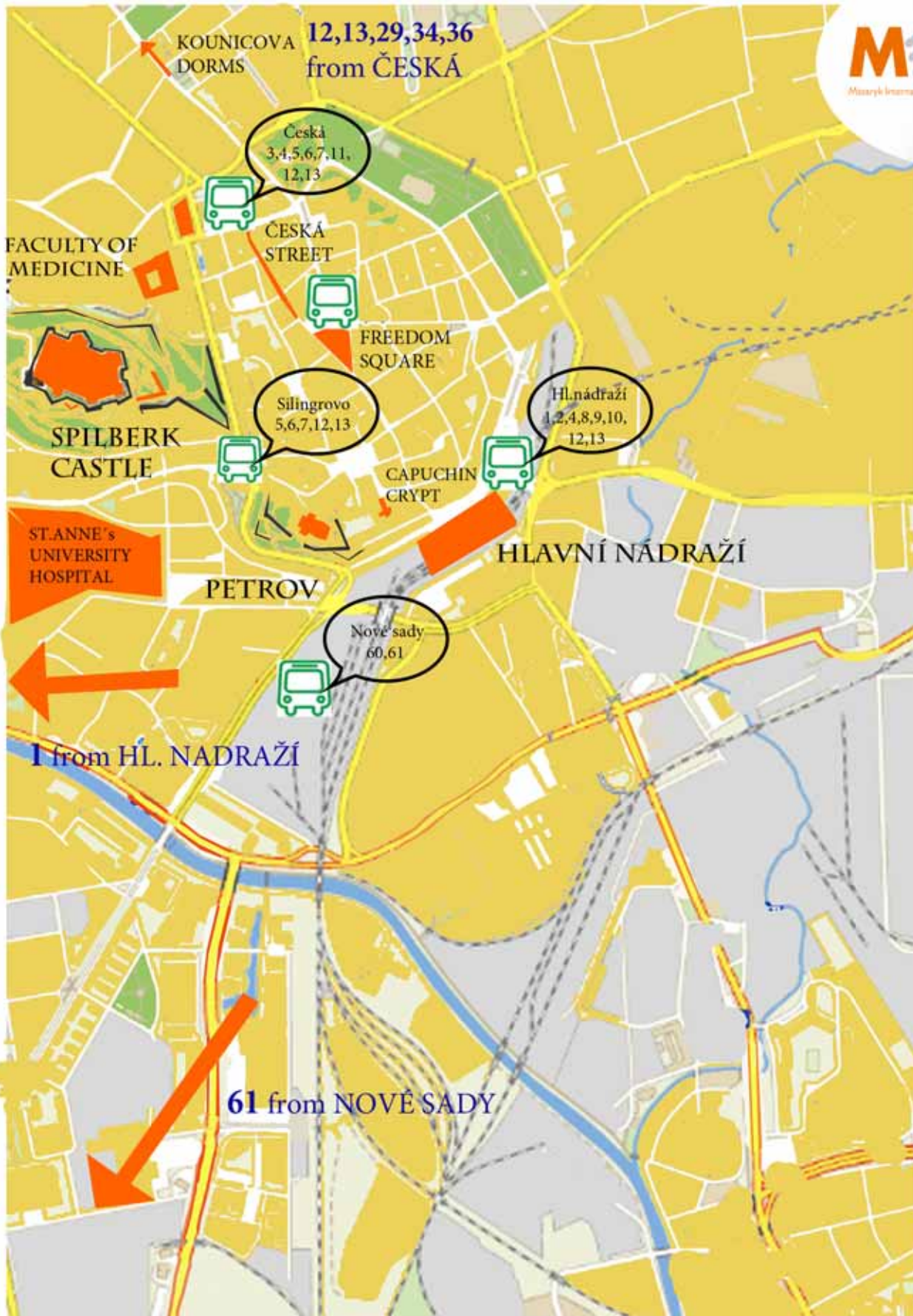
address: Divadelní 3 - Brno

SPORTS VENUES



MIMSA

Medical International Medical Students Association



MAP OF BRNO - CENTRE

Communication

The isolation from the Iron curtain days still influences normal life in the Czech Republic and you can feel it mostly in communication. Sometimes older people are diffident to international students. The majority of older people only speak czech, although some also speak Russian. Almost all young czechs speak English or German.

Czech is a very specific and hard language, which has its own specific letters like Ř - a fricative trill (no one except czechs can pronounce it ;)

But the pronunciation is quite simple - the letters are pronounced the same way as read.

During your stay in a hospital, in a restaurant or in shop, the phrases below can be useful for you.

Yes/no	Ano/ne	
Maybe	Možná	(možna:)
Please	prosim	(proseem)
Help	pomoc	(pomots)
Thank you	Děkuju	(djekhuju)
Excuse me	prominte	(prominteh)
Good morning	Dobře rano	(Dobre rahno)
Good day (formal hello)	Dobry den	(Dobree den)
Good night	Dobrou noc	(Dobrow nots)
Hi	Čau	(Chaw)
Goodbye	Nashledanou	(nashledanow)
What is your name	jak se jmenujes	(jak se menooyesh)
My name is ...	jmenuji se	(menooyui se)
Nice to meet you	Těší mě	(tie shee-mye)
How are you (formal way)	Jak se máte	(Yak seh mateh)
How are you (informal)	Jak se máš	(Yak seh mash)
I'm well	Mam se dobře	(mam se dobre)
I don't speak czech	Nemluvim česky	(nemluvim cheski)
Do you speak english?	Mluvíte anglicky?	(mluveete anglitske)
Excuse me, I don't understand czech	Promiňte, nerozumim česky	(prominteh, nerotsumim cheski)
How much is it?	Kolik to stojí	(kolik to stoye)
Where is?	Kde je?	(kde ye)
You are so pretty	Ty jsi tak krásná/y	(ty jsi tak krasnah)
Can I buy you a drink?	Můži to objednat pití	
One beer please	Jedno pivo, prosím	(yedno pivo proseem)
Do you want a shot?	Dáš si panáka?	(dash si pana:ka)

Can you help me?

Next stop

Dormitory

Hospital

Tram

Railway station

Good pub

Vine

Beer

Thief

Lunch

Dinner

Breakfast

Class room

Doktor

Nurse

Toilet

Men/ ladies

Shower

Můžete mi pomoci, prosím?

Další zastávka

Koleje

Nemocnice

šalina

hlavní nádraží

dobrá hospoda

víno

pivo

zloděj

oběd

večeře

snídaně

učebna

doktor

sestřička

záchod

páni/dámy

sprcha

(dalshee zasta:vkah)

(koleye)

(Nemotznitseh)

(shalinah)

(hlavneeh nahdrazhyee)

(dobrah hospoda)

(veeno)

(pivo)

(zdodyey)

(obyed)

(vechere)

(sneedanye)

(utchebnah)

(sestrichka)

(za:khod)

(pa:nii/da:my)

CZECH CUISINE



Czech cuisine

Eating habits in the Czech Republic are quite different from the rest of the world. Our cuisine is typical for middle Europe - it is quite heavy, but in combination with our national drink - beer; it is a tasty meal and a delicious experience. Eating is a Czech national sport. You can see many people with their well deserved bellies. We call it "beer pregnancy" or "beericeps".



The day usually begins with a light breakfast. The main meal of the day is usually the midday meal - lunch. Dinner consists of a small meal but many men heist their fridges during the whole night.

Soups

The Czech meal consists of two courses - the first ordinary part is a hot soup. It is usually served as part of the menu in restaurants. Most common are beef or chicken broth with noodles or liver dumplings.

Sauces

Sauces (omáčky) have the leading role in Czech cuisine - usually made from meat broth and vegetables (e.g. tomato sauce, mushroom sauce and sauerkraut soup called "zelňačka" or famous vegetable sauce and marinated beef sirloin called "svíčková").

The main course

- **Roasted pork, sauerkraut, dumplings** ("vepřo-knedlo-zelo") - the most famous Czech meal. You can order it in all Czech restaurants and we highly recommend you to try it.
(As a side dish to the sauces we usually serve dumplings (knedlíky) - meal made from a dough (flour, eggs and sometimes potatoes) boiled in hot water).
- **Goulash** - originally a Hungarian dish, which is very popular in the Czech Republic. It is in fact meat broth with red pepper. Also served with dumplings but of a different kind - made from a roll.
- **Bramboráky** - fried pancakes made of rough-grated or fine-grated raw potatoes, flour, milk spiced with marjoram.
- **Wiener schnitzel** - meat fillet in bread-crumbs served with potato salad or fried cheese with potatoes.
- **Koláče, Buchty** - a type of yeast pastry consisting of fillings ranging from fruits to cheese or poppy seeds on doughnuts.

Beer

Brewing has longstanding traditions in the Czech Republic. The first records about beer production relate to 1088 and the first brewery is known to have existed in 1118 and the city of Brno had the right to brew beer from the 12th century. The most famous Czech beer brands are Pilsner Urquell and

Budweiser Budvar, but in Czech Rep. you can try many different beers, some of them you can find only in specific days during the year e.g. harvest beer "Dožínkové pivo" or green beer "Zelené pivo".

Practical information

Almost all beers produced in the Czech Republic are bottom-fermenting. They are varied in colour from pale "světlé", through amber "polotmavé" and dark "tmavé" to black "černé". Top-fermented wheat beer "pšeničné pivo" can also be found pretty often. Beers in the Czech Rep. are brewed in different strengths from 3-9% of alcohol, which will be expressed also in its taste. In pubs or on the labels you can distinguish this by grade scale. Mostly you can get "tap" beer 10° containing app. 4.4% alc., "lager" beer, brewed between 11° (5% alc.) and 12° (5.5% alc.) and "special" beers, brewed above 13°.

Reservations are not obligatory if you want to go for a beer. On one side there is a high possibility that you won't find a free place in the pub you wanted; on the other side there are lots of other pubs nearby you can visit. The most popular days for going for a beer are Friday followed by Wednesday and Saturday, that's why we recommend you to reserve for a place (or make a reservation). Making a reservation is for free; usually you have to be there by 20:00, at the latest.

Smoking in the pubs is allowed in Czech Republic, but in some restaurants or cafes you can easily find a non-smoking part, unfortunately this is not the case with pubs.

On the next page, you have IFMSA's TOP 5 pubs list. You can find more pubs (also good) in appendices.

IFMSA CZ - TOP 5 pubs for BEER LOVERS

U Richarda

- Address: Údolní 7 (behind of the Faculty of Medicine in downtown)
- Reservation: 00420 775 027 918, www.uricharda2.cz
- 4 kind of beers - Honey beer called in Czech "Medové pivo", Sour cherry beer called "Višňové pivo", Wheat Beer called "Pšeničné pivo" and Light lager called "Světlý ležák", coming from a small Brno brewery from city part Žebětín

Středověká krčma

- Address: Česká 6
- Reservation: 00420 542 21 00 21, brno.stredovekakrcma.cz
- Every Friday and Saturday historical fencing or belly dancers can be found here. Here, you can try very old Slavic drinks "Medovina" called "mead" in English. It is light alcohol made from honey, you can drink it cold or hot ("Soptící medovina") with steam coming out of it. Another interesting beer, is "Korma", that is a mixture of mead and beer. The right place where you can feel history.

Steak bar Modrá růže

- Address: Modrá růže - Kounicova 2
- Reservation: Modrá růže - 00420 521 248 912
- Here you can try here almost 20 different kinds of beers, produced by bigger and smaller breweries and many steaks - even tartar steak from raw beef

Minipivovar Pegas

- Address: Jakubská 4
- Reservation: 00420 542 210 104, www.hotelpegas.cz
- This is another small brewery in Brno with its own beers. Most people don't like the staff here, but many like the beers.

Pivovarská pivnice

- Address: Mendlovo náměstí 20
- Reservation: 00420 543 420 130, www.pivovarskabrno.cz
- This is the biggest and most famous brewery of Brno producing its own beer called "Starobrno" for many centuries.

Restaurants

There are plenty of restaurants, the best choice are Czech pubs and restaurants, with a typical Czech cuisine. Of course, you can find many international restaurants such as Italian, Indian, French, Spanish or Asian. It takes time to decide, what your favourite meal is and where you want to have it.

You can find a list of some restaurants here. International restaurants are in the appendix.

Arca di Adria

One of the most welcoming restaurants and the most central with Italian food. Has a great outside place during summer. Address: Náměstí Svobody 17

Pegas

A frequently visited place due to its nice atmosphere and beer variety. You can also experience here some of Czech traditional dishes. Address: Jakubská 120

Blahovka

Awarded with the certificate of "Best Pilsner Beer" of all Brno, combined with the famous "koleno" (knee pork) makes the perfect spot for those you like to have the "breakfast of champions". Address: Gorkého 54

Empire

At the top of the building, it combines the perfect atmosphere with a great view. Also provides a lovely meal giving, you the opportunity of tasting something different.

M-Palace

With the best view over the city and quite a romantic atmosphere, makes it a nice choice to hang out with your beloved one. Address: Heršpická 813

Stopkova plzenska pivnice

A new restaurant in the popular and crowded street, Ceska. A must go to restaurant, mainly due to it's traditional Czech food and good beer. Address: Česká 5

Nightlife



There are many ways of how to spend time in this city when the sun goes down. You can choose between more than 1000 pubs and music clubs, where many Czech or international (pop, music) groups play, or discos. You will be surprised, how long the pubs stay open and you can enjoy well-know Czech beer. But be careful-public drinking is prohibited in the city. We decided to place a list of our favourite clubs below. Many of the pubs/clubs are ok, but to find the really good ones, you need more than a month.

We want to share our international experiences with you, so that you can get the best night available in town!

MIMSA TOP 5 clubs

Mandarin

- Address: Jakubské nám.6
- Reservation: bar@moment-bar.com
- Mandarin is the #1 stop for all international students. If you are ever at a loss as to which club to go, Mandarin is always waiting. With a social bar area upstairs and sofas and dance floor downstairs, it provides the perfect combination for an awesome night. You are bound to find one of your heads of social [department here on any given Friday!](#)

Abajo Culture Club

- Address: Náměstí Svobody 17 (Dům Pánů z Lipé)
- Favorite place for MIMSA parties. Right in the middle of Náměstí Svobody this club has a good enviroment but most importantly (MIMSA favourite) cheep drinks are available.

Livingstone

- Address: Dominikánské nám. 5
- Reservation: +420 542 210 090
- Set in a interesting environment, Livingstone offers the kind of atmosphere you can't find anywhere else in Brno. Popular to both Czech and international students with music appealing to everyone's taste, from 80's to hip-hop. This club has foosball, an upstairs drinking area, and a separate chill-out room.

Metro

- Address: Poštovská 6

- Reservation: 515 533 452
- With sofas and movie-inspired posters, this is a great environment to slowly get merry! Metro always attracts a friendly crowd with people only looking to have fun!

Fleda

- Address: Štefánikova 24
- Fleda is one of the largest clubs in Brno and hosts the most important club events in Brno. The club is usually booked for big themed events. It has one of Brno's biggest dance floors, multiple bars, chillout area and another small dance floor. A good place to go for groups, and a great place to meet new people from different backgrounds.

Cafés

It is not a problem to have a coffee or have lunch on every corner of the city. „Small gardens“, that is how we call them, grow up every spring in the front of the restaurants and cafes, where you can sit and enjoy your drinks or meal outside. No matter what it is, if you like some specialities from cafe shops with extraordinary kinds of coffee, if you prefer to drink a beer somewhere in the pub or if you give a way to delicious wine which is served right from the barrel, you will be surprised of pleasant prices and nice waiters everywhere.



Liberty Cafe

Found near the upmarket shops of Brno centre, Liberty Café is a splendid place to have a coffee and a bite to eat during the day, and with late opening hours it is a good option for pre-drinking before proceeding to a nearby club.

Café Lavazza

Your local coffee. Comfortable and relaxing, just right for hanging out and catching-up with friends.

Solitaire

A chic café found in the city centre with a pleasant garden area. Offers coffee, moravian wine, beer and fresh food. Can also be booked for private functions.

Podnebi

A discreet and charming café, situated just behind the Komenského náměstí. Friendly service, free Wi-Fi, coffee, tea, chocolate and Paninis it is a good place to go for a chat with friends. The outdoor patio is great in the summer!

La Dolce Vita (non-smoking)

This café is seated in the historic part of town, Petrov Brno, near the church. It offers a quiet environment with a summer garden and Italian music. La Dolce Vita boasts 38 kinds of hot chocolate, 28 kinds of frappe, specialty coffee, Italian coffee (PORTIOLI), alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, salads, toasts and ice cream sundaes.

Mezzanine Café

Situated just behind the Computer Rooms, a favorite amongst Portuguese students. Well-know for the portuguese coffee and "Pastéis de nata"

Shopping

What is the great advantage of Brno when we are talking about shopping? An amazing idea to buy? everything necessary, everything that can satisfy your needs, nearby. As time has gone on, a lot of new supermarkets and shopping areas have grown in Brno. Supermarkets try to cover all customers needs and their opening time is very often non-stop. The shopping areas themselves are usually open until 9p.m. We would mention for example:

Gallerie Vankovka

A warehouse turned into a shopping center with a large variety of shops and cafés. The shopping mall is the passing point between the central train station and the bus station. If you need to find something, that would be the perfect place to start.

Olympia

The second shopping area is further from the centre, with almost one hundred shops, cafes, restaurants or fast foods with the addition of a kart circuit. Challenge your friends and have a great afternoon chilling out. Though out of the city, still a good place to visit for a good time. A multiplex cinema and bowling alleys can be found here.

There is a free bus connection between Vankovka and Olympia with special blue buses.

H&M / Zara

Because students have to always look their best, the best place to create your style would be Zara and H&M. Address: Česká 161

Wagner

A must go to any student who needs books, dossiers or any other kind of study material to be successful in their course. Address: Česká 161

IKEA

The perfect place to buy furniture and make your house/flat feel more like home. Address: Skandinávská 4

Of course you can find other supermarkets such as **Kaufland, Billa, Tesco, Albert, Interspar** in Brno

MIMSA Cards Discounts & Benefits

Accommodation:

Real Estate:

<http://www.cityrealestate.cz/>

City Real Estate- Flats Rental service in english language



Translation services:

<http://www.aback.cz/en/>

Translation services ABACK linguistic consulting:

Certified translations, European and non-European languages, comprehensive services.



Office equipment, Copy and Printings:

<http://www.copytone.cz/>

Copy center and office equipment

MIMSA card-holders get 10% discount



Restaurants:

<http://www.arca-brno.cz/>

Arca di Adria- you can now benefit from a 10% discount at most peoples' favorite restaurant in Namesti Svobody.



Technologies:

iStyle store – a week in which Apple accessories have discounts.

<http://www.istylecz.cz/>

Adress: Nam. Svobody n°20

Olympia Shopping Mall

ISIC Cards Discounts & Benefits

Coffee Shop:

<http://www.cafe04.cz/>

You can get a 10% discount with your ISIC card.

Address: Veveri 65 (tram 12/13 from Ceska to Konecného náměstí)

Technologies:

<http://www.istylecz.cz/>

Apple devices with 5% discount in the presence of ISIC Card.

Adress: Nam. Svobody n°20

Olympia Shopping Mall



MIMSA & ISIC CARDS



Cultural events:

Discount on Ballet, Opera and Theatre tickets

Restaurants:

At McDonald's you can get a special menu for a cheaper price
(Medium Big Mac meal & Medium McChicken meal both for 160kc)

MIMSA & ISIC CARDS

This booklet was created by the conjunction of International medical students from MIMSA (Masaryk International Medical Students Association) and Czech students from IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students Association). It is based on the original version, published in 2010 by

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The information contained in this booklet is accurate at the time of publication and is meant as a guide for those students starting at Masaryk University.

We hope that it proves useful for your studies and life in Brno and we look forward to meeting you in person.

We would like to give thanks to the Faculty of Medicine at Masaryk University for their help with producing this booklet.

