



## Czech Republic - Low



**Czech Republic Country Map**



POLITICAL



ARMED CONFLICT



TERRORISM



CRIME



CIVIL UNREST



MARITIME AND PIRACY



HEALTH



ENVIRONMENTAL



TRANSPORTATION

Last Published: 16 September 2025

## COUNTRY OVERVIEW

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Czechia is a politically and economically stable post-Soviet state, although issues such as corruption and a politically influenced civil service, persist. The country

emerged as the first former Eastern Bloc state to acquire the status of a developed country, joining the European Union in 2004 and NATO in 1999. Czechia is often visited for its culture, architecture and landscapes.

The greatest threat to travellers is petty crime. Petty crime is common in major urban areas, including Prague, especially in the vicinity of tourist hotspots, and on public transport. Travellers should adopt sensible security precautions, such as maintaining situational awareness and not leaving belongings unattended.

Protests and strikes are fairly common; however, civil disorder is rare. In recent years, the largest protests have been triggered by coronavirus-related restrictions, domestic political developments and scandals, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. When large protests do occur, they often take place in the vicinity of the Parliament Building, Wenceslas Square and Letna Park in Prague.

There is no recent history of terrorist attacks in Czechia, nor do any specific threats exist, meaning the risk of terrorism is low. That said, there is a heightened threat of terrorist attacks globally that could target Western interests and travellers. Attacks could be indiscriminate, targeting tourist areas such as major transport hubs, busy urban centres and religious sites.

## **CULTURAL INFORMATION**

- Czech is the official language of Czechia. Czech is extremely similar to Slovak, and the two languages are largely mutually intelligible. Many people in urban areas speak at least some English.
- Initial meetings are usually formal. Visitors should wait to use a person's first name until invited.
- Gift giving is common upon arrival as a guest at someone's home. The gifts are considered a warm gesture and need not be expensive; wine or flowers are usually acceptable.
- Tipping 5-10 per cent is a customary practice at most restaurants. For taxis, round the fare up for the tip.
- When drinking in a toast, make eye contact with those participating. Czech's typically say "na zdavy!" (nah z-drah-vee) when toasting. This is a sign of trust and respect. Only clink glasses with those opposite to you, as crossing arms is a sign of bad luck.

- Travellers should be aware of historical and cultural sensitivities. Avoid referring to the country as *Czechoslovakia*, which peacefully split into the Czech Republic and Slovakia in 1993. Additionally, it is considered inaccurate and potentially offensive to describe Czechia as part of Eastern Europe as it is geographically and culturally part of Central Europe.
- Same-sex civil partnerships are legal in Czechia. Czech law also currently prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation.

<b>KEY FACTS</b>	
<b>CAPITAL</b>	Prague
<b>CAPITAL CITY PHONE CODE</b>	2, 31, 32
<b>COUNTRY PHONE CODE</b>	420
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Czech Koruna
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>	230 V, 50 Hz
<b>GMT</b>	+1
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	Czech (official)
<b>LEADERSHIP</b>	President Félix Tshisekedi; Prime Minister Petr Fiala
<b>OFFICE WORK WEEK</b>	Monday-Friday
<b>OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAME</b>	Czech Republic
<b>PLUG STYLES</b>	Types C,E

<b>KEY FACTS</b>	
<b>RELIGION</b>	Roman Catholic 7%, other believers belonging to a church or religious society 6%, believers unaffiliated with a religious society 9.1%, none 47.8%, unspecified 30.1%
<b>TIME ZONE OFFSET</b>	UTC +2 (Daylight Saving Time observed)
<b>TYPE OF GOVERNMENT</b>	Parliamentary Republic

## **RISK SUMMARY**

### **Political - Low**

The risk of political instability is low.

Czechia is a stable parliamentary constitutional republic, in which the President is the head of state, and the Prime Minister is the head of government. Executive power is exercised by the Government of Czechia, which reports to the lower house of Parliament. The Legislature is bicameral, with the Chamber of Deputies (Poslanecka snemovna) consisting of 200 members and the Senate (Senat) consisting of 81 members. Both houses together make up the Parliament of Czechia. The president is elected for a five-year term by direct popular vote following a change in legislation in 2012; the role is largely ceremonial.

Since accession to the EU in 2004, Czechia has formed numerous governments, the majority of which failed to complete their constitutionally allotted term.

The January 2023 presidential elections saw retired North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) general Petr Pavel elected to the office of the president. Pavel was running against Andrej Babis, the country's former prime minister.

Pavel secured 58.32 percent of the vote.

The last legislative elections took place in October 2021. The opposition parties won a majority in the Chamber of Deputies and agreed to form a coalition government with Civic Democrat Party leader Petr Fiala as the new prime minister. The incoming government took over in December 2021 amid rising COVID-19 infections, soaring energy prices and record budget deficits.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine and the resultant energy supply crisis in Czechia have seen the increased popularity of nationalist, populist, and fringe political groups that are against EU and NATO membership, and seek closer ties to Russia. Tens of thousands of people took to the streets of Prague in September 2022 to denounce rising energy bills, some of whom also marched under the banner of 'Czech First', calling for an end to the support offered to Ukraine and calling for the pro-Western government to resign.

The regional elections in October 2024 saw the right-wing populist party ANO 2011 come first in 10 of 13 regions. The next parliamentary elections are scheduled for October 2025 and may see Czechia following the right-wing populist trend seen in much of the West.

Corruption remains an issue in Czech society and the country has a higher level of corruption compared to the rest of western and central Europe. In 2021, Transparency International rated the country 54 out of 100, lower than the Western Europe/European Union Average of 66 out of 100.

### **Armed Conflict - Negligible**

Czechia is surrounded by NATO allies, thus the risk of armed conflict on Czech territory is negligible. The country pursues positive relations with its regional neighbours, as well as the United States. As a member of NATO, its forces have been involved in missions abroad, including in Afghanistan and the Balkans. Czechia also belongs to the regional Visegrad Four (V4) organisation with Poland, Hungary and Slovakia.

In response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the Czech government banned Russian airlines from flying into the country. Prime Minister Petr Fiala also announced a series of unilateral sanctions against Russia in addition to

those imposed by the EU. Furthermore, the Czech government has supplied substantial financial and military aid to Ukraine.

Czechia's support for Ukraine has elevated the risk of Russian hybrid warfare targeting the country. The Czech government has attributed several hybrid attacks to Russian intelligence services or Russia linked groups. Hybrid attacks are typically unpredictable and may follow government decisions or events perceived as anti-Russian. Potential targets include government institutions, public services, critical infrastructure, and public spaces. Incidents may range from cyberattacks and vandalism to arson or other forms of disruption.

### **Terrorism - Low**

There is no recent history of terrorist attacks in Czechia, nor do any specific threats exist, meaning the terror threat is low. That said, there is a heightened threat of terrorist attacks globally that could target Western interests and travellers. Attacks could be indiscriminate and may target areas frequented by tourists, such as major transport hubs, busy urban centres and religious sites.

There is a credible risk of far-right extremist attacks. Such attacks are most likely to target migrant or ethnic minority populations. The Russian invasion of Ukraine and the resultant energy crisis have seen nationalist and far-right fringe groups grow in popularity. It remains to be seen whether this will translate into a rise of far-right extremism in the near term.

In December 2023, a lone gunman killed at least 14 people in the vicinity of Charles University in central Prague. The mass shooting was not determined as terrorism.

### **Crime - Low**

Crimes of opportunity, such as pickpocketing and petty theft, present the greatest security concern for travellers in Czechia. Such crimes are prevalent in major cities, such as Prague, at busy transport hubs and in the vicinity of popular tourist sites. There is an increased number of reports of petty crime on public transport with subway stations a known target for gangs.

Violent crime is rare, and travellers are unlikely to be affected. To mitigate the risk of being targeted by criminals, travellers should limit overt displays of wealth and are encouraged to maintain a high degree of situational awareness at all times.

There have been reports of robberies and sexual assaults taking place with drugs used to incapacitate the victim. As such, unsolicited offers of gum, drinks, snacks, or cigarettes should be refused. Those under the influence of alcohol may be at risk of being a target for crime. In addition, there have been reports of bogus plain-clothes policemen asking to see foreign currency or passports. If travellers find themselves in such a situation, they should offer to go to the nearest police station or call 158 or 112 to check their identity.

Organised crime continues to be an issue as Czechia serves as a source, transit, and destination country for human, arms, and drug trafficking, though travellers are unlikely to be affected.

Electronic fraud via compromised Wi-Fi connections or card skimming are common. Unsecured networks should be avoided, and ATMs should be examined closely before use. Prague city police have advised travellers to always exchange currency at a currency exchange office or bank, never to do so on the street as the money is often counterfeit.

Czechia has liberal gun laws compared to much of Europe and national politicians have publicly considered further liberalisation, however, gun crime remains low.

### **Civil Unrest - Low**

Demonstrations and protests are common in Czechia and occur on a sporadic basis.

Political developments, unpopular government policies, and socio-economic grievances are the primary causes of protests. Common drivers in recent years include the Russian invasion of Ukraine, pro-Palestine demonstrations, high energy bills, and government corruption.

Protests typically take place in public areas of major cities, especially in the capital, Prague. They are usually peaceful and well-managed by police. The risk of

strikes or protests becoming violent is low, but violence can still occur with little warning.

Violent protests primarily stem from far-right groups. These groups have previously organised small-scale but frequent rallies against immigration policy and ethnic-Roma communities, as well as counter-rallies against LGBTQ+ pride marches. Authorities may employ dispersal tactics in the case of violent unrest, this can include the deployment of riot police, tear gas and water cannons. Such events can pose incidental risks to bystanders, so they should be avoided as a safety precaution.

The principal concern for travellers is localised disruption to transport and business operations. Travellers should stay informed via local media for updates on planned strikes or demonstrations and plan accordingly.

### **Maritime and Piracy - Negligible**

Czechia is a landlocked country and therefore does not suffer from security risks related to maritime or piracy issues.

### **Health - Low**

Healthcare facilities are generally of a good standard, if not up to the standards of the UK, US, or Germany. Staff are generally trained to a high standard and will deliver a good standard of care for the majority of routine and emergency requirements. Medical transport and treatment are not free and up-front payment may be required, it is advised to carry proof of insurance or an EHIC card at all times.

Post-Covid investments in healthcare infrastructure have significantly improved access to quality care and reduced waiting times for patients. The Czech government has increased funding for hospitals, clinics, and healthcare facilities, modernising medical equipment and expanding facilities.

### **Environmental - Low**

Czechia is a land-locked country of low mountains, rolling hills and flat plains. It faces limited environmental hazards.

Summers are warm and dry, though heavy thunderstorms can develop in the evenings, especially in higher terrain. Winters are cold, damp, and often snowy. Travellers should be aware of snowstorms and icy conditions during winter, particularly in elevated areas.

Heavy rains can cause flooding and landslides particularly during the spring and summer months. In May and early June of 2013, heavy rainfall across central Europe caused the river Vltava in Prague to burst its banks. Subsequent flooding caused heavy damage to the city's infrastructure and eleven people were killed. Severe flooding in eastern Czechia in September 2024 resulted in road closures, bridge damage, power outages and mass disruption to public and private transport networks.

Although tornadoes are unlikely in Czechia, they do occasionally occur. Notably, in 2021, a devastating F4-level tornado struck South Moravia killing six people, injuring 200, and causing widespread destruction across multiple towns and villages. This was an exceptionally rare occurrence. Roughly two tornados occur in Czechia each year with strong tornados (F2 or greater) occurring only a few times a decade. Tornadoes occur most frequently in the months of June, July, and August and are more likely to form in the late afternoon/early evening. While the risk is low and tornadoes are not a major concern for travellers, it is advisable to stay informed of local weather conditions, especially during severe storm forecasts.

Czechia is among the least affected countries in the EU when it comes to wildfires. However, occasional forest fires are known to occur during dry spring or summer months. These fires may lead to temporary declines in air quality in nearby areas due to smoke.

## **Transportation - Low**

Air travel operates both internationally and domestically. Domestic flights are likely to be costly due to additional charges that apply to luggage, in-flight services and seating. Ground travel is considered to be better suited to in-country

travel.

Road conditions vary across the country, with roads in rural or mountainous areas being uneven, narrow, or poorly marked. Drivers often drive at excessive speeds in rural areas. Headlights must be on at all times and winter tyres are mandatory from 1 November to 31 March. All vehicles must have a first aid kit, warning triangle, and a high-visibility vest to be worn in case of breakdown. Travellers can be fined for jaywalking, crossing the street on a red light, or crossing the roadway at a non-designated location, particularly in Prague's city centre.

There is a low risk of road traffic accidents in Czechia. Speeding and drink driving are recognised as an issue and cause a large proportion of accidents. However, road fatality rates are roughly equal to the EU average and have steadily declined in recent years.

Czechia's public transport network is, on the whole, reliable, efficient and safe. Prague has an extensive and fully integrated public transport system comprising trams, metro and buses. In rural areas, public transport systems may be less modern or poorly maintained.

Ride-hailing apps, such as Uber, are available in most major cities. Taxis are also widely available, although some drivers may attempt to overcharge unsuspecting passengers. Trams are available in-country and have priority over all other methods of transport and pedestrians.

## EMERGENCY DETAILS

**SOLACE GLOBAL:- +44 (0)1202 795801. GENERAL EMERGENCIES:- 112, FIRE BRIGADE:- 150, AMBULANCE:- 155, POLICE:- 158. BRITISH EMBASSY PRAGUE:- +420 257 40 2111, U.S EMBASSY PRAGUE:- +420 257 02 2000. REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMBASSY:- +420 234 090 411.**

**POLICE NUMBER**

112

**AMBULANCE NUMBER**

112

<b>EMERGENCY DETAILS</b>	
<b>FIRE NUMBER</b>	112
<b>EMERGENCY DETAILS</b>	national numbers used in Czechia: 158 for Police, 155 for Medical and 150 for Fire

## **TRAVEL**

### **TRAVEL ADVICE**

There are no major concerns for travel within Czechia although be aware of local transport laws including items required to be carried, motorway stickers and winter tyre policies.

Travellers are required to carry their passports at all times for identification. Police have been known to fine people, and even arrest people, failing to provide sufficient identification when asked.

Be alert to currency scams and ATM overcharging. Always check exchange rates and any surcharges before completing withdrawals. Travellers should use banks for cash withdrawals and verified currency exchanges.

Lampposts across Prague have six-digit location codes in the event of requiring assistance from emergency services these will provide your location.

Homosexuality is legal in Czechia and a substantial number of protections against harassment and discrimination have been enshrined in law. However, some small towns outside of urban centres remain conservative and less accepting of those who identify as part of the LGBTQ community. Travellers who identify as such are advised to use caution when in these areas.

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

### DECEMBER 21, 2025

- **December Solstice:** Czechia - Seasonal

### DECEMBER 24, 2025

- **Christmas Eve:** Czechia - National

### DECEMBER 25, 2025

- **Christmas Day:** Czechia - National

### DECEMBER 26, 2025

- **St. Stephen's Day:** Czechia - National

### JANUARY 01, 2026

- **Restoration of the Czech Independence Day:** Czechia - National
- **New Year's Day:** Czechia - National

### FEBRUARY 14, 2026

- **St. Valentine's Day:** Czechia - Observance

### FEBRUARY 18, 2026

- **Carnival / Ash Wednesday:** Czechia - Christian

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

**MARCH 08, 2026**

- **International Women's Day:** Czechia - Observance

**MARCH 20, 2026**

- **March Equinox:** Czechia - Seasonal

**MARCH 29, 2026**

- **Palm Sunday:** Czechia - Christian

**APRIL 02, 2026**

- **Maundy Thursday:** Czechia - Christian

**APRIL 03, 2026**

- **Good Friday:** Czechia - National

**APRIL 04, 2026**

- **Holy Saturday:** Czechia - Christian

**APRIL 05, 2026**

- **Easter Sunday:** Czechia - Christian

## RECENT ALERTS

### SECURITY MEASURES IN PLACE FOLLOWING UNVERIFIED THREAT OF DRONES APPROACHING PRAGUE'S VÁCLAV HAVEL AIRPORT (PRG)



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate



03-Oct-2025 18:00

Czech police have imposed stringent security measures at Prague's Václav Havel Airport (PRG) following an unverified threat regarding approaching drones. At around 19:15 local time, the Czech Police received an anonymous call from an English-speaking person that a large number of drones were seen approaching the airport. Police and military units have been deployed to the area, with snipers and anti-drone systems monitoring the air for potential objects. Czech authorities are prepared to close airspace and all access routes if the threat is deemed to be genuine. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.

## RECENT ALERTS

### WIDESPREAD POWER OUTAGES REPORTED ACROSS CZECH REPUBLIC, INCLUDING PRAGUE



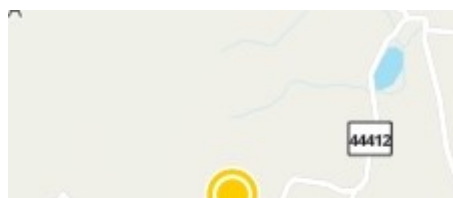
**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate



04-Jul-2025 10:56

According to local sources, power outages are currently affecting multiple parts of the Czech Republic, including Prague and northern and eastern Bohemia. The Czech Transmission System Operator (ČEPS) states that the cause of the outages is not immediately clear and that the issue is still being investigated. Metro lines have resumed operations; however, travel by tram and other means of public transportation is being heavily disrupted. Emergency services are currently working to respond to a high volume of calls.

### WILDFIRE REPORTED IN THE NOVÉ HRADEČNÉ AREA OF OLOMOUC





**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



29-Jun-2025 12:10

The Olomouc Region Fire Department reports a wildfire in the Nové Hradečné area. The size of the fire and the extent of damage remain unknown at this time.

No casualties have been reported. The incident has been declared a three-alarm fire, with over 15 firefighting units deployed, including high-capacity tankers, drones, a command vehicle, and a helicopter. Currently, further information is limited, but we will monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.

## STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN CZECH OLOMOUC REGION OVER BENZENE SPILL



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate

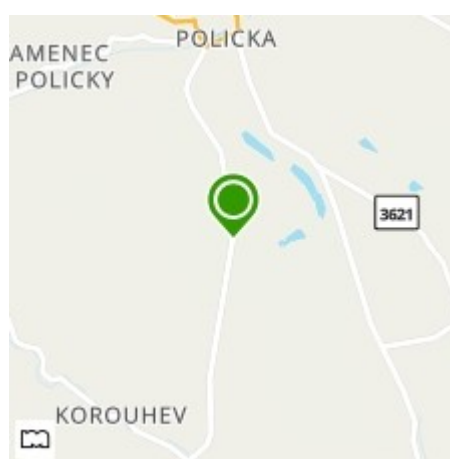
## RECENT ALERTS



30-Mar-2025 11:01

Local authorities have declared a state of emergency in the Czech Olomouc region over a benzene spill. This follows a train crash on 28 February, which resulted in the contamination of a nearby lake that is affecting local drinking water supplies. Emergency services are on the scene, tackling the incident.

### UPDATE: EVACUATED PEOPLE CAN RETURN HOME AFTER EARLIER EXPLOSION IN BOŘINY



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Low

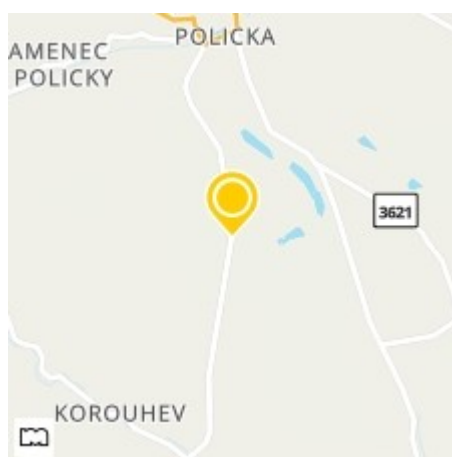


25-Mar-2025 17:46

Local authorities report that evacuated people can return home after the earlier explosion at an ammunition plant in Bořiny. The perimeter has been adjusted only to include the involved building. Local authorities report there is no widespread danger to the public. The exact cause of the incident is still under investigation, and no further information is available.

## RECENT ALERTS

### UPDATE: EVACUATION ZONE IMPLEMENTED FOLLOWING EXPLOSION AT AMMUNITION PLANT IN BOŘINY



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate

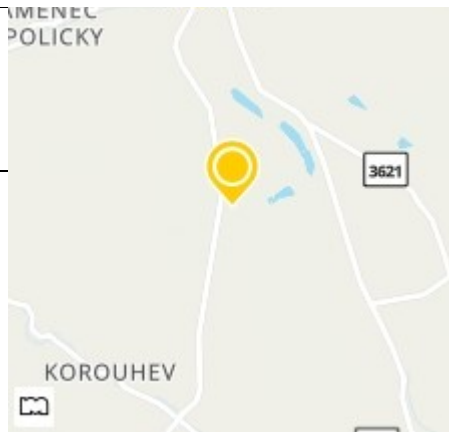


25-Mar-2025 12:02

Local emergency services have implemented a 1.5 kilometre evacuation zone following an explosion at an ammunition plant in Bořiny. The evacuation zone doesn't extend into the town of Polička. Investigations into the cause of the explosion are still underway, but local authorities report that a technical fault is the most likely cause. The extent of damage is currently unknown. There are reports of at least one injury. No further information is available.

### UNCONFIRMED EXPLOSION AT PRODUCTION FACTORY IN BORINY





**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate



25-Mar-2025 09:24

According to local media, there have been unconfirmed reports of an explosion at a production factory in Boriny. One person has been reported injured however there is no information available regarding structural damage. Firefighters have declared a third level fire alarm and are in the process of evacuating individuals nearby. There is currently no further information available.

## **EVACUATIONS UNDERWAY DUE TO BOMB THREAT LUCERNA, PRAGUE ONE**



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate

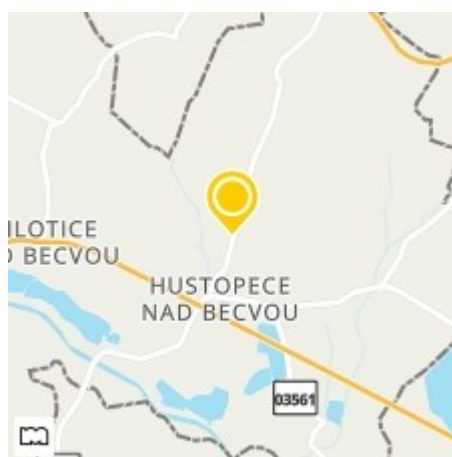


## RECENT ALERTS

20-Mar-2025 21:37

Local media report that bomb threats in Prague have prompted the evacuation of Lucerna and the closure of Smíchov railway station. Metro, tram, and train services are passing through but not stopping at the station. Emergency services, including specialised teams, are on-site investigating. No further information is currently available.

### FIVE TRAIN TANKERS ON FIRE REPORTED NEAR HUSTOPEČÍ NAD BEČVOU, PŘEROV DISTRICT



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate

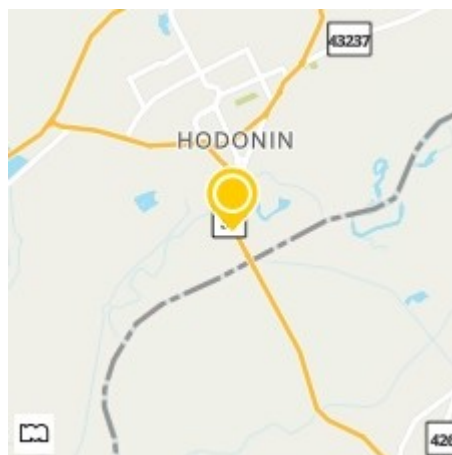


28-Feb-2025 12:34

Local media report that a freight train accident has caused five tankers to catch fire near Hustopeč nad Bečvou, Přerov District. Railway firefighters have raised a special level of fire alarm that is said to affect traffic on the Hranice na Moravě line, Hranice, Přerov District, towards Valašské Meziříčí, Vsetín, Slovakia. Local authorities have not reported casualties at this time.

## RECENT ALERTS

### FARMERS PROTESTING AND BLOCKING ROADS AT THE HODONIN BORDER CROSSING



**Category:** Civil Unrest - **Risk:** Moderate



27-Feb-2025 10:55

Local Czech news and social media sources have reported that a group of farmers are protesting and blocking roads at the Hodonin border crossing. The group consists of farmers from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Austria who are protesting against the import of food from countries outside the EU. Tractors have blocked roads at several locations with delays having been reported. There is no further information available at this time.

# FCDO SUMMARY

Last updated: 12/10/2025 13:16:31

## Warnings and insurance

### Before you travel

No travel can be guaranteed safe. Read all the advice in this guide. You may also find it helpful to:

- see [general advice for women travellers](#)
- read our [guide on disability and travel abroad](#)
- see [general advice for LGBT+ travellers](#)
- read about [safety for solo and independent travel](#)
- see [advice on volunteering and adventure travel abroad](#)

### Travel insurance

If you choose to travel, research your destinations and [get appropriate travel insurance](#). Insurance should cover your itinerary, planned activities and expenses in an emergency.

### About FCDO travel advice

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) provides advice about risks of travel to help you make informed decisions. Find out [more about FCDO travel advice](#).

### Get travel advice updates

Sign up to [get email notifications](#) when this advice is updated.

Follow FCDO:

- [travel advice on X](#)
- [travel advice on Facebook](#)
- [Travel Aware on Instagram](#)

## Entry requirements

This information is for people travelling on a full [‘British citizen’ passport](#) from the UK. It is based on the UK government’s understanding of the current rules for the most common types of travel.

The authorities in the Czechia set and enforce entry rules. If you’re not sure how these requirements apply to you, contact the [Czechia Embassy in the UK](#).

## Passport validity requirements

Czechia follows [Schengen area rules](#). Your passport must:

- have a ‘date of issue’ less than 10 years before the date you arrive – if you renewed your passport before 1 October 2018, it may have a date of issue that is more than 10 years ago
- have an ‘expiry date’ at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave the Schengen area (the expiry date does not need to be within 10 years of the date of issue)

Check with your travel provider that your passport and other travel documents meet requirements. [Renew your passport](#) if you need to.

You will be denied entry if you do not have a valid travel document or try to use a passport that has been reported lost or stolen.

## Dual nationals

When returning to the UK, British citizens must carry a valid [British passport](#) or [certificate of entitlement](#). See [Dual citizenship](#).

## Visa requirements

You can travel without a visa to the Schengen area, which includes Czechia, for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. This applies if you travel:

- as a tourist
- to visit family or friends
- to attend business meetings, cultural or sports events
- for short-term studies or training

The requirements for [working in Czechia](#) are different.

If you're travelling to other Schengen countries as well, make sure your whole visit is within the 90-day limit. Visits to Schengen countries in the 180 days before you travel count towards your 90 days. If you overstay the 90-day visa-free limit, you may be banned from entering Schengen countries for up to 3 years.

Until the Entry-Exit System (EES) is fully rolled out, make sure you get your passport stamped on entry and exit (read 'New Schengen entry requirements').

If you're a visitor, border guards will look at your entry and exit stamps to check you have not overstayed the [90-day visa-free limit](#) for the Schengen area.

If your passport is missing a stamp, show evidence of when and where you entered or left the Schengen area (for example, boarding passes or tickets) and ask the border guards to add the date and location in your passport.

At Czechia border control, you may also need to:

- show a return or onward ticket
- prove that you have enough money for your stay – the amount varies depending on your accommodation

## Staying longer than 90 days in a 180-day period

To stay longer, you must meet the Czechia government's entry requirements. Check which type of visa or permit you need with the [Czechia Embassy in the UK](#).

If you stay in Czechia with a residence permit or long-stay visa, this does not count towards your 90-day visa-free limit.

Read about [entry processes if you live in Czechia](#).

## New Schengen entry requirements

From 12 October 2025, the European Union's (EU) new Entry/Exit System (EES) will begin roll out.

This means that when you travel into the Schengen area for short stays, you may need to register your biometric details, such as fingerprints and a photo. You do

not need to take any action before you arrive at the border, and there is no cost for EES registration.

On your first visit into a Schengen country from 12 October onwards, you may be asked to register your details at a special booth before proceeding to the immigration desk. Follow directions from your travel operator or the staff at your port of entry. You may also need to provide either your fingerprint or photo when you leave the Schengen area. Children aged 11 or younger will not have their fingerprints scanned but can be required to have their photo taken.

EES may take each passenger a few extra minutes to complete so be prepared to wait longer than usual at the border.

EES will not be rolled out to all ports of entry at once, the numbers of passengers being registered at each port of entry will vary, and some destinations may take up to 6 months to fully roll out the new process.

Until EES is fully rolled out your passport will continue to be stamped, even if you've already been registered for EES. Once EES is fully rolled out, it will replace the current system of manually stamping passports when visitors arrive in the Schengen area for short stays and you will input biometric details every time you enter or exit.

If you enter the Schengen area through the Port of Dover, Eurotunnel at Folkestone or Eurostar at St Pancras International and you are asked to register for EES, the information will be taken at the border before you leave the UK.

Read more [information on the EU Entry/Exit System and to understand which countries are in the Schengen area](#).

## **Border controls at Germany's land borders**

There are temporary border controls in place to travel into Germany. Check the [entry requirements for Germany](#).

## **Registering with the police**

If you do not have a Czechia residence permit, you must register your address with the [nearest foreign police department](#) (in Czech) within 3 days of arriving. You can also register through your hotel or accommodation service. If you do not

register, you could get a fine of up to 3,000 Czech koruna.

## Customs rules

There are strict rules about [goods that can be brought into and taken out of Czechia](#). You must declare anything that may be prohibited or subject to tax or duty.

### Taking food into Czechia

You cannot take [meat, milk or products containing them into EU countries](#). There are some exceptions such as powdered baby milk, baby food and special foods or pet feed required for medical reasons.

### Taking money into or out of Czechia

Declare cash or travellers cheques if the value is 10,000 euros or more. You will get a certified declaration to show you brought it in with you. If you do not, your money could be seized when you leave. For more information, see [import and export of financial funds](#).

## Safety and security

### Terrorism

There is a high threat of terrorist attack globally affecting UK interests and British nationals, including from groups and individuals who view the UK and British nationals as targets. Stay aware of your surroundings at all times.

UK Counter Terrorism Policing has information and advice on [staying safe abroad](#) and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack. Find out [how to reduce your risk from terrorism while abroad](#).

### Terrorism in Czechia

Terrorist attacks in Czechia cannot be ruled out.

You should be aware of the global risk of indiscriminate terrorist attacks which could be in public places, including in places frequented by expatriates and

foreign travellers.

## Political situation

Public protests may happen at short notice. These have been peaceful but take care in crowded places and follow the instructions of local authorities.

## Crime

### Protecting yourself and your belongings

Petty theft is a problem, especially in major tourist areas in Prague. There is a risk of pickpocketing:

- on busy metro and bus routes from Prague airport to the city centre
- on trams to popular tourist sites like Prague Castle
- in busy tourist areas

Take care of yourself and your belongings in the same way as you would do in the UK. Avoid leaving your belongings unattended.

Report thefts in person to the Czech police within 24 hours, and get a police report crime number for insurance purposes. Prague police station (Jungmannovo namesti 9, Prague 1, nearest metro stop is Mustek) is open 24 hours and has English translators. You can also get a police report from the police station at the airport. See [Prague police station contact details](#) (in Czech).

Every lamppost in Prague has a 6-digit number posted at eye level. These codes will help you tell the police where you are if you cannot give them an exact address.

### Drink spiking

There is a risk of drink spiking in bars and clubs. Be careful not to take drinks from strangers or leave your drinks unattended.

### Scams

Beware of criminals pretending to be plainclothes policemen who ask to see your foreign currency and passport. Czechia police officers do not have the right to do this. Do not show them your money. Instead, offer to go with them to the nearest

police station. You can also call 158 or 112 to check their identity.

## Travelling in groups

If you're travelling in a group, keep a note of your hotel phone number and address in case you are separated. Leave contact details with a friend or relative in the UK.

## Prague safety issues

Prague city police advise visitors to:

- always change money at a currency exchange or bank rather than on the street as this money is often counterfeit
- take care when using cash machines
- avoid contact with sex workers
- be aware of consumption charges in night clubs as they are often high
- be careful with consumption cards, which carry high financial penalties if you lose them before you pay your bill

## Laws and cultural differences

### Personal ID

It is a legal requirement to carry ID. Always carry your passport. The police may fine or arrest you if you do not. They will normally accept a scan of your passport if you have not committed a crime.

### Drunken and offensive behaviour

Stag groups are not allowed to enter some city centre bars and restaurants. You may be arrested or fined for drunken or offensive behaviour. Police may take you to 'sober-up' facilities for a temporary period, and you will have to pay for your stay.

### Illegal drugs

The possession, sale and distribution of drugs, including cannabis, is illegal, and the drugs are often dangerous counterfeits. Some shops, particularly in Prague, advertise 'cannabis products', which contain trace amounts of THC permissible

under Czech law.

You should expect severe penalties such as a long jail sentence and heavy fines for possessing, using or smuggling illegal drugs, including when transiting through the airport. Convictions carry sentences of up to 18 years.

Airports in Czechia have excellent technology and security for detecting illegal items. This is also used to scan the baggage of transiting passengers.

## **LGBT+ travellers**

Same-sex relationships and civil partnerships are legal in Czechia, but same-sex marriages are not recognised in Czech law. Registered same-sex partnerships are awaiting presidential approval. Same-sex couples showing affection in public could receive unwanted attention. Read more [advice for LGBT+ travellers](#).

## **Surrogacy**

It is illegal to earn money from a surrogacy arrangement.

The police may charge you if you are:

- a surrogate mother
- a British national who plans to take a child born through surrogacy
- an agent organising the handover

[FCDO](#) advises against making surrogacy arrangements in Czechia or moving surrogacy arrangements from other countries.

You should get specialist legal advice in the UK and Czechia. See [surrogacy arrangements in foreign countries](#).

## **Transport risks**

### **Road travel**

If you are planning to drive in Czechia, see [information on driving abroad](#) and check the [rules of the road in the RAC's Czechia guide](#). The guide lists driving regulations and other legal requirements you need to be aware of.

You can use a UK photocard driving licence to drive in Czechia. If you still have a

paper driving licence, you may need to [update it to a photocard licence](#) or get the correct version of the [international driving permit \(IDP\)](#) as well.

Hire car companies often have stricter requirements for their customers, such as a year of driving experience, a higher minimum age and holding an [IDP](#).

Check if you need a [UK sticker to drive your car outside the UK](#).

If you are visiting Czechia, you may be able to use your [Blue Badge](#) in some circumstances. Check local parking rules.

Drink-driving is a serious offence in Czechia. If you are tested and found to have any alcohol or drugs in your system, you may face a fine of up to 50,000 Czech koruna, confiscation of your licence and possible imprisonment. The Czech police can ask any driver to take a breathalyser test on the spot.

## Taxis

It's safer to use a major taxi company than to pick one up in the street. Some taxis charge high prices. Always check the rates on the side of the taxi before getting in.

Beware of drivers pretending to be taxi services but offering rides in unmarked cars and overcharging for journeys. See information on [using Uber at Prague airport](#), including how to book through the app, at a self-service kiosk or at service counters. Booking through a kiosk is usually slightly more expensive.

## Buses and trams

See [Prague public transport information and journey planner](#) in English.

Be careful near tram tracks and make sure you look both ways as trams cannot stop quickly. Trams have the right of way on zebra crossings.

You may get a fine if you do not cross roads and tram tracks at pedestrian crossings. You can also get a fine if you cross when the pedestrian crossing light is not green.

You must validate your ticket in a ticket machine before starting a journey on public transport. You do not need to validate tickets bought from self-service terminals on trams and buses. Officials patrol public transport and will issue an

on-the-spot fine of 1,000 Czech koruna (around £35) if you do not hold a validated ticket. If fined, you should get a receipt. If you cannot pay immediately, the police can get involved and the fine could increase to 1,500 koruna.

The 30 and 90-minute journey adult tickets for bus, tram and metro are not valid on the Petřín Hill funicular railway in Prague. You need a specific 60-koruna ticket from the vending machines at funicular railway stops, or a 24-hour ticket (or longer).

## Extreme weather and natural disasters

Find out what you can do to [prepare for and respond to extreme weather and natural hazards](#).

You can access [local forecasts and weather warnings](#) for Czechia. Follow the instructions of local authorities.

## Health

Before you travel check that:

- your destination can provide the healthcare you may need
- you have [appropriate travel insurance](#) for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation

This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant.

## Emergency medical number

Dial 112 and ask for an ambulance.

Contact your insurance or medical assistance company quickly if you're referred to a medical facility for treatment.

## Vaccine recommendations and health risks

At least 8 weeks before your trip:

- check the latest [vaccine recommendations for Czechia](#)

- see where to get vaccines and whether you have to pay on the [NHS travel vaccinations page](#)

See [what health risks you'll face in Czechia](#).

## Medication

The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries.

Read [best practice when travelling with medicines on TravelHealthPro](#).

## Healthcare in Czechia

[FCDO](#) has a [list of medical providers in Czechia](#) where some staff will speak English.

### Health insurance cards

To get medically necessary state healthcare in Czechia, you need a Global Health Insurance Card ([GHIC](#)) or a European Health Insurance Card ([EHIC](#)).

The NHS's [getting healthcare abroad webpage](#) has details about:

- how to apply for a [GHIC](#)
- how to get temporary cover if you lose your card or it does not arrive in time
- who qualifies for a new [EHIC](#) instead of a [GHIC](#)
- what treatment counts as medically necessary

A [GHIC](#) or [EHIC](#) is not an alternative to travel insurance. You may have costs your [GHIC](#) or [EHIC](#) does not cover, including:

- changes to travel and accommodation bookings
- additional standard costs for treatment
- medical repatriation to the UK
- treatment that is ruled non-urgent
- private healthcare
- private clinics

There is also [guidance on healthcare if you're living in Czechia](#).

## Travel and mental health

Read [FCDO guidance on travel and mental health](#). There is also [mental health guidance on TravelHealthPro](#).

### Getting help

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office ([FCDO](#)) cannot provide tailored advice for individual trips. Read this travel advice and carry out your own research before deciding whether to travel.

## Emergency services in Czechia

Telephone: 112 (ambulance, fire, police)

## Contact your travel provider and insurer

Contact your travel provider and your insurer if you are involved in a serious incident or emergency abroad. They will tell you if they can help and what you need to do.

### Refunds and changes to travel

For refunds or changes to travel, contact your travel provider. You may also be able to make a claim through insurance. However, insurers usually require you to talk to your travel provider first.

Find out more about [changing or cancelling travel plans](#), including:

- where to get advice if you are in a dispute with a provider
- how to access previous versions of travel advice to support a claim

## Support from [FCDO](#)

[FCDO](#) has guidance on staying safe and what to do if you need help or support abroad, including:

- finding English-speaking [lawyers](#), [funeral directors](#) and [translators and](#)

[interpreters](#) in Czechia

- dealing with a [death in Czechia](#)
- being [arrested or imprisoned in Czechia](#)
- getting help if you're a [victim of crime](#)
- what to do if you're [in hospital](#)
- if you're [affected by a crisis](#) , such as a terrorist attack

## Contacting [FCDO](#)

### Help abroad

See [how to get help from the UK government abroad](#) including in an emergency.

### Help in the UK

You can call [FCDO](#) in London if you need urgent help because something has happened to a friend or relative abroad.

Telephone: 020 7008 5000 (24 hours)

[Find out about call charges](#)

## Get travel advice updates

Sign up to [get email notifications](#) when this travel advice is updated.

Follow [FCDO](#):

- [travel advice on X](#)
- [travel advice on Facebook](#)

## Risk information for British companies

The Overseas Business Risk service offers [information and advice for British companies operating in Czechia](#) on how to manage political, economic, and business security-related risks.

## PACK SMART

Only pack items you can replace, leave valuables at home. You will be less likely to attract criminals and if threatened, you won't be tempted to put up a fight to save your belongings.



Carry a duplicate wallet with small denomination notes and old cards that you could relinquish if threatened by robbers. Only pack items you can replace, leave valuables at home. You will be less likely to attract criminals and if threatened, you won't be tempted to put up a fight to save your belongings.



Always check the destination restrictions regarding medications when planning your trip.

## STAY SAFE: Hotels



Request a hotel room between the third & seventh floor. Ground floor rooms should always be avoided as they are easily accessible from the outside. Higher levels mean in the event of a fire there are many stairs to navigate and in some countries firefighters may not have ladders capable of reaching higher than the seventh floor.



Check your room phone works in case you need to call reception for help.



Know where your fire exits are. Count the number of doors to the fire exit from your room so you can feel your way in the event of a fire and a

smoke-filled corridor.



To prevent unauthorised entry into your hotel room, make sure the windows and doors lock. Bolt the deadbolt and use the door wedges you've brought with you from home to wedge the main door closed.

### **TRAVEL SAFE:** Out & About



When you are out and about, be aware of your surroundings - don't display obvious wealth, such as expensive jewellery, watches and mobile phones.



Use ATMs inside banks and shopping centres, where there is greater security and CCTV. Safety in numbers. If you are travelling with colleagues, stay together for meals and trips out. If you are alone, avoid quiet areas and trust your instincts.

### **Road traffic accidents are still the greatest threat to travel safety.**



- Use licensed taxis.
- Always wear a seat belt.
- Keep doors locked & windows up.
- Avoid night-time driving.
- If the driver is using a phone or driving dangerously, insist they slow down/stop using their phone.

Check in regularly. Use the 'Check In' button on the Solace Secure app so your location can be monitored and you can view all intelligence alerts within your vicinity.

## SAFE TRAVEL: Health Tips

See a medical travel specialist at least 4 weeks before travel.

Ask about recommended vaccines for specific destinations.

First aid kit with regular & special medication for trip - carry in hand luggage.

Evacuation & travel insurance to cover health emergencies while abroad.



Take an extra month of prescribed medication for pre-existing conditions.

Risk of malaria - take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and take malaria pills as advised.



Avoid drinking alcohol and becoming dehydrated.

Verify & consume safe water and food. Have a supply of medicine for self-treatment of diarrhoea.



Excessive sun exposure should be minimised by the use of sunscreen - sun can be more intense over water, snow and at altitude.

Leave animals alone. Animal bites or scratches can transmit rabies.

## THINK SAFE: Know Your Destination

Understand the culture of your destination. Dress and behave so as not to cause offence or draw attention.



Know if the tap water is suitable to drink if not; only accept water from a sealed bottle.

Avoid ice in your drinks & salad washed in tap water.

Research where you are travelling to. Make a note of the local emergency services number. Know the current security and medical threats and advice. See the FCO website for general information ([gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice)).

### **DOCUMENT SAFE:** Know Your Destination

Take photos/scans of your essential documents and email them to yourself. You can then access them remotely if your belongings are stolen:

- Passport
- Driver's Licence
- Travel Insurance Document
- Visa
- Medical Certificates

For 24/7 travel risk advice and emergency assistance contact Solace Global Risk operations: + 44 (0)1202 795 801

The Solace Secure desktop and app provide up-to-the-minute alerts, providing latest information on your travel location even when you are there.

CONTACT SOLACE GLOBAL RESPONSE TEAM

This report has been prepared for you by Solace Global Risk Ltd.

If you need urgent help, advice or assistance at any time please contact the 24/7 Response and Assistance Team.

If you have a question about this travel advice or any other location please email [SGR@solaceglobal.com](mailto:SGR@solaceglobal.com) for further safety and security information.

For support using your Solace Secure platform or app please contact [support@solaceglobal.com](mailto:support@solaceglobal.com).

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