

Miša's Tips for Prague
What you might not find in your Prague travel guide...

Night clubs –

Jazz –

- **U Staré Pani** (Michalská 9, Old Town, Praha 1).
Very popular jazz club; Cover charge ~ 100 czk
<http://www.pragueexperience.com/places.asp?PlaceID=1097>
- **Agharta** (Železná ul., Old Town 16 Praha1).
Another popular spot; Cover charge ~200 czk. <http://www.agharta.cz/aghaclub.htm>
- (The Very Gentle Club) **Limonadový Joe** (near department store Kotva, metro Náměstí Republiky, Praha 1).
<http://prague.tv/events/at/3161>
- **Jazz Boat** from outside Charles University Law Faculty (Pravnická fakulta) Tickets must be purchased in advance at TIKETPRO (via internet, the price is around 450 czk)
<http://www.pragueexperience.com/places.asp?PlaceID=919>

Pubs/Restaurants – best to book ahead

Central

- **U Pinkasů** – an old Czech pub/restaurant on three levels (Jungmannovo náměstí 16, Praha 1). Good draft beer, garden, very central. http://www.upinkasu.cz/resthorni_cz.html
- **U seminaristy** - across from Tesco store (Spalena 45, Praha 1). The lunch menu is affordable at 80 czk but book ahead to confirm, otherwise they charge an extra 180+ czk. Also very central and has a garden.
<http://useminaristy.com/index.htm>
- **Novoměstský pivovar** (Vodičkova 20, Praha 1) – Very popular place/ a brewery and eatery. Beer's not so good but many visitors. <http://www.pragueexperience.com/places.asp?PlaceID=351>
- **U Sádlnů** - Hostinec (Klimentská 2, Praha 1) – Old style restaurant with very varied menu and lots of 'knightly' atmosphere, if you like that sort of thing. <http://www.usadlu.cz/onas.html>

On the Lesser Town (Malá Strana) side of the river:

- **Malostranská Pivnice** – (Cihelná ul. 3, Praha 1) – A real Czech-style pub. Big/busy and has a courtyard, not too fancy, excellent beer and large portions. <http://www.malostranskapivnice.cz/CZ/>
- **U místra Kellyho** (Jansky vrsek 8, Praha 1). Nice pub with outdoor seating. Next to Nerudova Street. Good beer, schnitzel, goulash, potato pancakes. Tel.: +420-247217770.
- **NEBOZIZEK** (Petřínské Sady 411, Praha 1, tel.: +420-257315329).
<http://www.nebozizek.cz/nebozizek/html/restaurant.htm>
More expensive but fabulous views and good food. Access by funicular („lanovka“) from tram stop Újezd (trams no. 22, 23). Ask for the funicular the hill/park „Petřín“. Take the funicular only to the middle of the hill – to stop called „Nebozizek“. Alternatively, have a lovely walk up the hill from Vojanovy Sady (a park by the river).

DEFINITELY AVOID!!! Restaurants on Old Town Square and immediate surroundings – lots of pick-pockets and the food just so-so and seriously overpriced.

Cafes – (unfortunately, I don't have the specific names of a number of these, just location and description). But good cafes are not that hard to come by in Prague.

- **Louvre** (Národní 22, Praha 1, 110 00, tel: +420 224 930 949). <http://www.cafelouvre.cz/cs/>
Large art deco style cafe/restaurant on the 1st floor. Very near Tesco store. Currently one of the best cafes.
- **Café MANES** near the bridge Jiraskuv most, NOT Manesuv Most. There's music, and Thursdays is '60s night.

Exhibitions – All National Gallery sites are well worth the visit. <http://www.ngprague.cz/>

There are 3 in addition to the permanent exhibitions at the National Gallery locations that are noteworthy:

Jan Zrzavý - Valdštejnská Jízdárna near metro station Malostranská

<http://www.ngprague.cz/10/99/vystavy-detail/jan-zrzavy---duverne-pribehy/>

Jan Zrzavý, painter, draughtsman, graphic artist, illustrator, stage designer and author, had a major influence on the development of twentieth-century Czech modern art.

Štyrský – Gallerie U Zvonu (Stone Bell House) Old Town Square. http://www.ghmp.cz/a_zvon.php

Štyrský's work, which is now highly esteemed, went through rapid development including all of the progressive aspects of Czech art from the inter war period, from the rise of cubism to pictorial poetry and the pinnacle of **surrealism**.

Emil Filla at the National Gallery at the Castle (Jízdárna Pražského hradu). An excellent retrospective of this distinguished Czech Cubist painter.

<http://www.ngprague.cz/10/100/vystavy-detail/emil-filla-1882-1953-/>

A very interesting permanent exhibition at National Gallery- **Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia**- Medieval art of Bohemia and Central Europe. Newly renovated, beautiful design.

<http://www.ngprague.cz/80/detail/sbirka-stareho-umeni/>.

Concerts –

Avoid Klementinum and surroundings and National Museum (at top of Wenceslas Square) – music tends to be third rate.

Recommended:

- anything at the **RUDOLFINUM** (home of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra).
<http://www.rudolfinum.cz/recording/>
- **St Nikolas Church** for organ music in the Lesser Town [Kostel sv. Mikuláše, Malá Strana]. NOT the one on Old Town Square!!!

Swimming Pools

a) **Olšanka** at Hotel Olšanka (Olšanské náměstí). Indoor pool. Take tram no. 9 to Olšanské Náměstí. Very clean (~20meters).

b) **Žluté Lázně** (Yellow Spa) - outdoor pool, good for sunbathing and cooling off in the pool - too busy for doing lengths. <http://ftp.czechtourism.com/133premier/cz/cd/cz/news/news003.htm>

c) **Petynka**, Praha 6, Outdoor pool. 5 min by bus from metro stop Hradčanská, or 15 minutes walk from Loreta (near Castle). <http://www.koupalstepetynka.cz/> Map at: <http://www.koupalstepetynka.cz/index.php?page=4>

Tips about public toilets and tipping

Toilets in restaurants are free (some ask payment – but this is not permitted).

Tipping in restaurants – Normally leave cca 5-10%, couvert may be charged separately, but if so this must be stated in the menu. Ice is free.

Tips about Crystal, Glass, Czech Garnet

Smooth and good quality *crystal* can be found in Spálená Street, on the right hand side, just before the intersection with Myslíkova Street (coming from Národní Třída (Tesco area).

Otherwise take care when buying *glass*, not all that is labelled Krystal is crystal and it is not always easy to tell the difference (you may be buying ordinary glass). On the other hand, excellent *glass* (lead free) can be found at Moser stores (not cheap).

Also beware when buying *Czech garnets*. They differ from the cheaper Asian ones by colour – they do not have a purple tinge but are dark red. Large garnets sold in stores with amber (succinite) are synthetic (from Russia) – not the real thing.

Classical Music CDs –

- Best shops for classical CDs are in a) Mostecká street, the salesman knows everything there is to know about classical music, and b) corner of Jungmannova street and Palacká.

All recommendations by Dr Míša Hendrychová