

THE REAL DEALS

A Beer Tour of Prague, With Airfare, \$1,999

LEARN ABOUT BOHEMIA'S BEER-MAKING TRADITION WITH VISITS TO THE U FLEKU, STAROPRAMEN, PILSEN, AND BUDWEISER BREWERIES. PLUS, ENJOY GUIDED SIGHTSEEING TOURS IN PRAGUE.

Monday, July 14, 2008

The Real Deal Round-trip airfare, six nights' accommodations, some meals, and guided tours, from \$1,999 per person—plus taxes of about \$399.

When Apr. 1-Oct 31, 2009; other dates are available upon request.

Gateways Chicago, New York City, Washington, D.C.; additional gateways are available upon request.

The Fine Print Buffet breakfast daily, three-course welcome and farewell dinners with beer, hotel taxes, airport-hotel transfers, and all other transportation by motor coach, sightseeing tours, and select entrance fees as per itinerary are included. Airport taxes are an additional \$135 per person, and fuel surcharges are an additional \$264 per person. Based on double occupancy and a group of at least 20 travelers. Single supplement is \$545. Read [these guidelines](#) before you book any Real Deal.

Book By No deadline; based on availability.

Contact Austrian Airlines Vacation Center, 800/790-4682, austrianair-vacations.com.

Why It's a Deal A recent Kayak search for round-trip travel to Prague in April 2009 yielded a fare of \$661 from New York City (United/Austrian Airlines), including tax. For an additional \$1,737, Austrian Airlines covers airfare as well as six night's accommodations, some meals, sightseeing tours, excursions to breweries, local transportation, and all taxes.

Trip Details The [Here for the Beer group package](#) includes round-trip airfare on an Austrian Airlines' carrier and six nights' accommodations in Prague at the 226-room [Ibis Karlin](#) or a similar hotel. The Karlin is in walking distance to the Krizikova metro station, and a 10-minute ride separates the hotel from the historic center.



Arched bridges across the Vitava River
(Paul Seheult/Eye Ubiquitous/Corbis)

The trip features two half-day tours of Prague. The first will take you to Old Town Square, a charming and well-preserved market square that dates back to the Middle Ages. While there, you'll get to see one of the city's most popular

attractions: a medieval astronomical clock, Orloj, mounted on the southern wall of Old Town City Hall.

The second half-day tour covers the Castle District, from the 18th-century Loretto Square to the Old Castle Steps, with stops at the Archbishop's Palace, the Hradcany Hall, the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, the Royal Palace, St. George's Basilica, and Lobkowitz Palace at Jirská Street.

In keeping with the trip's theme—beer—you'll get to take a behind-the-scenes look at four of the country's famed breweries. You'll begin with a visit to the [U Fleku brewery](#), founded in 1499, where you'll tour the brewing house, the traditional fermentation center, and the renovated exhibition area that has antique equipment and tools. The tour concludes with a three-course traditional Czech dinner and a beer at the U Fleku restaurant.

Additional trips to the [Staropramen Brewery](#), [Pilsen Brewery and Museum](#), and Ceské Budejovice's Budweiser brewery will round off your beer-making expertise with history lessons, demonstrations of the brewing process, and tasting sessions of the delicious finished product. You'll also stop by the town of Český Krumlov, where locals have been brewing since 1336.

You'll also go on a pub crawl, enjoy a farewell dinner at Vikarka Restaurant, and take a half-day excursion to the hop farms outside of Prague, which supply many of the country's breweries and are rarely visited by tourists.

Additional nights in Prague are available upon request only; rates vary depending on your travel dates. To learn more about the Czech Republic, browse the country's official [tourism site](#).