

The Czech Republic



Land and climate

- in central Europe
- comprising the historic regions of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia
- surrounded by 4 countries:
Germany,
Poland,
Slovakia
and Austria



Bohemia – hills, plains, mountains,
lowlands of Moravia,
Area: 78,864 sq km
Elevation: Sněžka (1,603m)





Rivers:

the Labe – the most important river for shipping,
the Vltava - the longest Czech river

Climate: continental with cold winter
and warm summers

Government

Form of government: republic

Head of state: President (Václav Klaus)

Head of government: Prime Minister



People

Population: 10 million

Major ethnic/national groups:

The Czech people are descended from Slavic tribes, the Czechs include both Bohemians and Moravians, *others:* Slovaks, Poles, Germans, Roma, Hungarians, Russians and Ukrainians...



Economy

Natural resources:

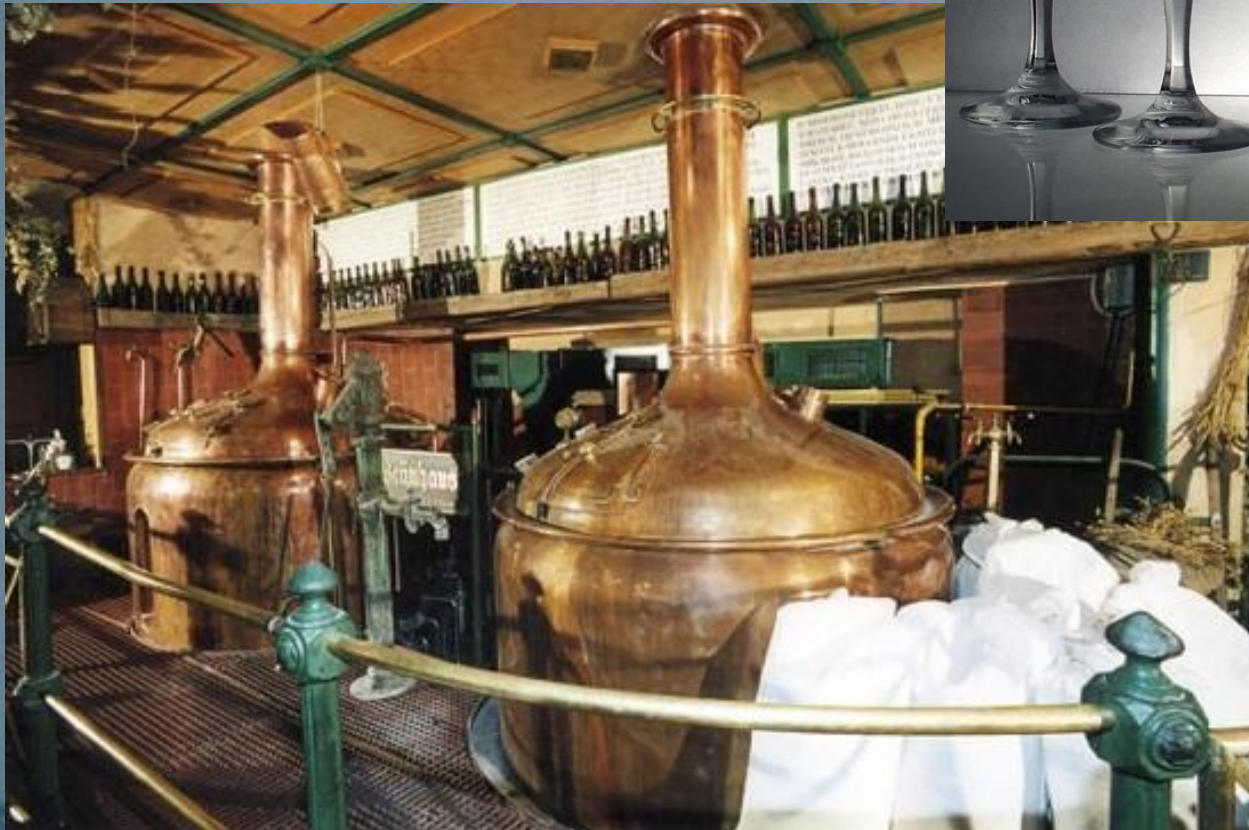
coal, zinc, iron, 34% of the country is forested

Agriculture: barley ,wheat, corn, sugar beets , rye, potatoes, hops

livestock animals including fowl, pigs, cattle, sheep



Mining and manufacturing:
steelworks ,
large breweries ,
glass and jewellery



Places of interest

The Šumava Mountains,
the Krkonoše Mountains



Principal cities:

Prague: the capital and the largest city

Brno , Ostrava, Plzeň (breweries, e.g. Pilsner),
Olomouc, Český Krumlov....



P R A G U E



Prague Castle and Hradčany



- the largest ancient castle in the world
- constructed in the 9th century
- has always been the seat of Czech rulers

Charles Bridge

- the second oldest surviving bridge in the Czech Rep.



- oldest standing bridge across the Vltava River
- completed in 1400



Wenceslas Square

It is a traditional place for demonstrations, celebrations and other mass gatherings.



Prague's cultural and business center.





- surrounded by shops, cinemas, office blocks, hotels, restaurants and cafés
- in November 1989 protest meetings against police brutality were held here and led to the Velvet Revolution and the end of communism in Czechoslovakia
- a monument of St Wenceslas on a horse

Old Town Square

Square in Prague center and the historic city core at all.



It covers an area of more than 9000 m².

Golden Lane

- named after the goldsmiths who lived here in the 17th century
- it was the home of the writer Franz Kafka and the Nobel-laureate poet Jaroslav Seifert
- most of them are souvenir shops today



Astronomical Clock



Mechanical clock with special mechanism, which in addition to showing the time and location of some celestial bodies in the sky.

Originally installed in 1410, the clock was rebuilt in 1490.

It consists of 3 parts – the procession of Apostles, the astronomical clock and the calendar.

Dancing House

- a modern, glass building surrounded by historic architecture
- American Frank O Gehry ("Astaire & Rogers Building," -after the legendary dance duo)



Today it houses offices, a luxury restaurant and cafe.

There are about 2,500
castles in the Czech
countryside.



Pernštejn

Among the most important castles in Moravia.



Gothic castle from the 13th century, it stands in the eastern edge of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands.



Hluboká



Karlštejn



Traditional meals



svíčková omáčka
sirloin with sour cream sauce

knedlo-vepřo-zelo
roasted pork, cabbage,
dumplings





fried cheese

sweet fruit
dumplings



Czech beer

(Budweiser, Pilsner)

Moravian wine



The most popular sports

ice-hockey
football
athletics
floorball
volleyball
tennis
speedskating
skiing



The most famous Czech sportsmen/sportswomen

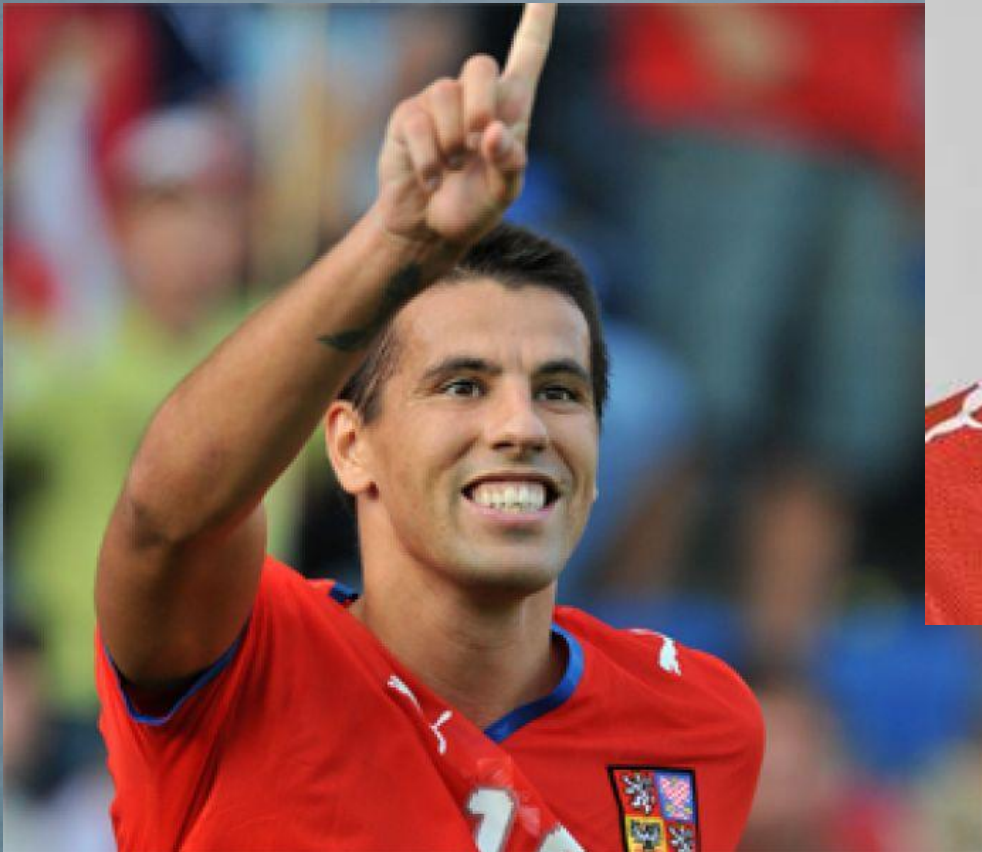


Jaromír Jágr
Ice-hockey player

Petr Čech
football - goalkeeper



Milan Baroš
football player



Jan Koller
football player

Petra Kvitová

- tennis player who won the 2011 Wimbledon Championship



Martina Sáblíková
speedskating

Thank you for your attention

