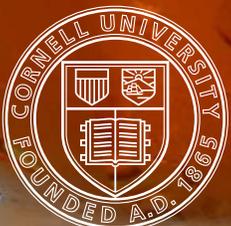


# BEER IN BOHEMIA

Cornell University Alumni Association Travel Program  
May 13—20, 2018

A Pivo Lover's Adventure in the Czech Republic

Sponsored by Cornell University Alumni Association Travel Program + Onward Travel



Cornell University

ONWARD TRAVEL



EST 2014



In the Czech Republic they've been brewing beer for over a thousand years. It's the country that gave the world Saaz hops and *pilsner* - a style that when perfected is transcendent. Czechs consume more beer per capita than anyone else. Beer is an integral part of daily life and well brewed beer is highly respected.

Imagine yourself...

Drinking unfiltered pilsner at Pilsner Urquell brewery

Hiking up a cliff to take in Prague's enchanting skyline

Taking a beer bath in a copper tub at a beer spa in the Bohemian Forest

**Dear Recent Grads,**

Hundreds of alumni have traveled all over the world with the Cornell Alumni Association Travel Program over the past forty plus years. But this is our first trip *just* for young alumni. We've slashed the price, kept it to one week, and added elements you won't see in our standard roster of trips.

So imagine yourself in Prague with your Cornell friends. It's a week in the spring when time stands still as you explore new-to-you places, soak up the culture, and learn a ton about beer on a small group tour with other Cornellians. We're pairing up with Onward Travel founded by Molly Crist '10 (Hotel) to make this daydream a reality.

Take it from me; traveling with a bunch of Cornellians is a fun way to go. Hoping you can join us!

Cheers,

Jim Mazza '88  
Associate Vice President for Alumni Affairs  
Cornell University

In May 2018 join other Cornell Young Alumni, along with the travel experts of Onward Travel, for a week in the Czech region of Bohemia exploring the beer scene and its place in this magical part of the world. From castles to microbreweries, the Vltava River to the Bohemian Forest, Prague to Pilsen... we'll drink beer, meet the people brewing it, hear tall tales and modern legends, and even take a beer bath. This nearly all inclusive tour is an opportunity for you to immerse yourself in Czech culture as a part of an intimate group of 14 or fewer travelers. Local experts will share their country with the group over and over, and you'll make amazing memories and lots of new friends.

## Welcome to Bohemia!

### DAY 1: SUNDAY MAY 13, 2018

- Sip the week's first beer in a beer garden overlooking the city.
- Check in to a brewery hotel in the heart of Prague.

Upon your arrival at Václav Havel International Airport in Prague a professional driver will be waiting for you along with your Onward Travel guide, Kat, and Kat will have a packed lunch to revive you. Let's get our week of adventures started right by heading from the airport directly to Letna Beer Garden. Perched on a hillside park with sweeping views of the shimmering Vltava River with its legendary ancient bridges and the intricate storybook architecture that makes Prague such a spectacular destination, Letna is the perfect place for the group to toast to the amazing experience that awaits here in the beating heart of Bohemia! American expat Evan Rail, widely considered the world's foremost English-language expert on Czech beer (catch him on *Parts Unknown*), will meet us here to introduce us to his beloved home city and its beer history and culture.

We'll depart from Letna and make our way to the center of the very panorama we've been admiring. Check in at historic U Medvidku, a beer hall, microbrewery and hotel located in a Medieval brewery building. Perfectly situated in the heart of Prague's old town, Staré Město, you will be walking distance to numerous historical sites, museums, watering holes and restaurants.

After some time to settle in, we'll meet in the microbrewery at U Medvidku, touted as the "smallest brewery in the Czech Republic," for a delicious early dinner and beer tasting. We'll be the guests of the brewmaster of the establishment, who will guide us in the tasting of his beers as well as show us around the facilities after we dine. Once we are finished, feel free to stay and enjoy the European pub atmosphere, have a rest in your room just upstairs, or head out to explore Prague... the rest of the evening is yours!

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Meals Lunch, Dinner

## Tour de Praha

### DAY 2: MONDAY MAY 14, 2018

- Get to know Prague with a fantastic (and funny) local guide.
- Lunch in a medieval monastery with a craft brewery.

Enjoy a breakfast buffet at the hotel this morning at your leisure, as you will each morning of the trip. We'll set out late morning for a tour of Prague with a fantastic local guide. Let's see all of the can't-miss sights in the city, including the Astronomical Clock and Old Town Square, the Church of St. Nicolas, and we'll cross the enchanting Charles Bridge to visit the city's jewel: Prague Castle. You'll understand today why this city, domain of centuries of kings, royalty, artists and Bohemian movers & shakers, is counted again and again as one of the most favored, beautiful and inspiring in all of Europe.

As a special treat we'll stop midday for lunch near Prague Castle at Strahov Monastery, founded by King Vladislav II in 1142, there is documentation of a brewery here dating back to the 13th and 14th centuries. Today the brewery on site, known as St. Norbert, is far more experimental than you'd expect a monastic brewery to be in a country that practically has holy national styles. Some of St. Norbert's offerings include Prohibition double IPA, The Clerk's IPA, Antidepressant dark autumn lager and Masopustni smoked porter.

In the afternoon we will return to the hotel together and then the rest of the evening is yours to explore Prague! Before the trip Onward Travel will provide you with a city guide to help you make the most of your free time in the Czech capital.

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Meals Breakfast, Lunch

## Bones & Beer

### DAY 3: TUESDAY MAY 15, 2018

- Stare in awe inside a chapel filled with decorative sculptures made entirely of human bones.
- Visit the original Budweiser, no relation to Anheuser-Busch.

Today we'll head out of town for an unusual day trip based around, yes, bones and beer. Our first destination, one hour east of Prague near the medieval town of Kutna Hora, is the Sedlec Ossuary. A small Roman Catholic chapel, it is one of twelve World Heritage Sites in the Czech Republic. The ossuary is estimated to contain the skeletons of between 40,000 and 70,000 people, many of their deaths a result of

the Black Plague and the Hussite Wars. In the second half of the 19th century, a Czech woodworker used the bones at Sedlec Ossuary to create elaborate, macabre sculptures, including four chandeliers and a copy of the Schwarzenberg coat of arms. The results are amazing!

Then it's on to Budvar Brewery, a two-hour drive south through the forests and lakes of South Bohemia. On our way we'll stop off in one of the country's picture perfect small villages, where you'll have some time to stroll around and have some lunch on your own. Yes, in German it's the Budweis Brewery and that may raise some red flags... but rest assured, the Czech bearer of the infamous brand name has been locked in a legal battle with Anheuser Busch for a very long time, and only one of these institutions has been endorsed by Britain's Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA). That's the one we'll visit today.

Our guided tour will take us from the visitor's center through the malthouse, fermenting cellars and bottling and packing plant. Learn about how the brewery extracts water from an underground lake that was purposefully built more than 100 years ago, contributing greatly to the quality of the eight beers produced by Budvar on the site.

When we get back to Prague tonight we'll enjoy a beer tasting dinner at Pivovarsky Dum where we'll be meet Mr. Jan Suran, Chairman of the Czech-Moravian Union of Microbreweries. Pivovarsky Dum considers itself both a restaurant and a "beer gallery," and as you nosh on their delicious traditional Czech cuisine and learn all about the Czech microbrewery scene from Mr. Suran, you'll have the opportunity to try their housemade beers such as Štěpán, a Czech style classic lager, available dark and light, or some specialty beers you may not find elsewhere in Prague, such as coffee beer, wheat beer, sour-cherry beer, nettle beer, banana, "Šamp" – a beer champagne, and "Black Hill" – a beer aperitif.

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Meals Breakfast, Dinner

## Castles & ...More Beer

DAY 4: WEDNESDAY MAY 16, 2018

- Tour a castle that looks straight out of a fairy tale.
- Arrive in Pilsen, the birthplace of the pilsner style.

Spend this morning in Prague as you like - check out the Kafka Museum, linger on Charles Bridge, or take a hike in Letna Park. Then it's time to pack your bags because we will meet after lunch to say farewell to Prague for a few days as we head west (in private

luxury transportation) to Pilsen, with a special stop along the way.

This afternoon we'll visit Karlstejn Castle, a large Gothic castle founded in 1348 by Charles IV, Holy Roman Emperor-elect and King of Bohemia. The castle served as a place for safekeeping the Imperial Regalia as well as the Bohemian/Czech crown jewels, holy relics, and other royal treasures. It's widely considered to be one of the most beautiful castles in the country, and today we'll enjoy a guided tour of the most important interior rooms, with fixtures dating from the 14th through 19th centuries, as well as the grounds. Amazing photo ops abound here, in fact it feels like if you pay enough attention you might just spot Robin Hood.

From there, it's on to the delightful city of Pilsen, where we'll check in at our centrally located hotel before a delightful dinner at Na Parkánu. The writer of this itinerary counts this restaurant on the short list of her favorites in all the world, and the hearty Czech specialties, many cooked with beer, served alongside unfiltered Pilsner Urquell will round out a day of walking in the footsteps of Bohemian royalty.

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Meals Breakfast, Dinner



At Na Parkanu a Czech feast includes hearty dishes like a whole roasted pork knuckle, seared duck breast, potato pancakes, and bread dumplings...

## Finding the Fountainhead

DAY 5: THURSDAY MAY 17, 2018

- Drink fresh unfiltered pilsner straight from the source.
- Explore the charming city of Pilsen as you like.

Just a short stroll from our hotel lies the giant Pilsner Urquell brewery, known colloquially as “the Fountainhead.” Brewing has been documented in Pilsen since the 13th century, but it wasn’t until the 1840’s that the brewery that put the small city on the map would open. The style known world-over as pilsner originated and was perfected here, and once you try it unfiltered and straight from the source you’ll never think of it the same way again.

During the brewery tour this morning we’ll get to see a model of the brewery from the 19th century, the brew house from the 1930’s, and the historic cellars. The guide will explain the unique method of brewing Pilsner Urquell beer, which hasn’t changed since 1842. You can have a look at the new bottling facility, which can handle 120,000 bottles per hour, and the “heart of the brewery,” a modern brewing facility from 2004. Afterwards, of course a comprehensive tasting is in order.

Following the tour this afternoon and evening are yours to spend as you like. Check out the city’s extensive network of underground tunnels, visit the beer museum, ascend the main square’s lovely cathedral, or just catch up on R&R with a book in the charming park next to our hotel. You are sure to enjoy your time in this wonderful little city!

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Meals Breakfast



The great gate leading in to the Pilsner Urquell brewery complex.

## Bathing in Beer

DAY 6: FRIDAY MAY 18, 2018

- Take an aromatic beer bath in a copper tub.
- Get to know one of the country’s most successful craft brewers.

This morning we will bid Pilsen farewell, Onward Travel will bring along a packed lunch for everyone. Our next destination will certainly be an experience you won’t forget. The Czech culture prizes both spa treatments and good beer so it’s only logical that someone combined them... Today we’ll visit Chodovar Beer Wellness Land on the premises of the 500 year old family-run Pivovar Chodovar, nestled in the Bohemian Forest in the famed West Bohemia spa region. With a liter of beer in hand, you will enjoy a rejuvenating and aromatic beer bath this morning in a giant copper tub (couples tubs are available, too). This unique experience is sure to be a highlight of your trip.

After our most memorable morning at Chodovar we will emerge from the Bohemian Forest to travel back to Prague with one pitstop on the way at Restaurace Tovarna where we’ll have an early dinner with Jakub Veselý, wunderkind brewer behind Falkon - the “flying brewery.” Veselý, who has brewed many of the top rated beers in Czech microbrewing, grew up in a famous region for hop growing (Zatec) and from childhood he was interested in beer, not unusual in a region where beer is considered a pride and joy. He was only 12 years old when we began to brew at his parents house, and at 15 he went away to study brewing formally. Jakub will guide us through the state of the art facility he designed while we taste a number of his beers. Then we’ll enjoy a fantastic gourmet beer pairing meal at this highly rated eatery where he has established a new brewing program.

Upon returning to Prague the group will check back in at U Medvidku. Enjoy this Friday evening in the heart of Bohemia!

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Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

# One Last Day in Prague

DAY 7: SATURDAY MAY 19, 2018

- Hike to the top of a cliff with amazing views over the city.
- Enjoy lunch in a thousand year old monastery.

After all that delicious beer, and all that delicious Czech food (not the world's lightest, let's be honest) you may feel the need to stretch your legs! This morning we'll set out on a guided urban hike in a park on the edge of the city. We'll get our blood pumping by hiking up a cliff to take in views of Prague in all her glory and have one last epic photo op.

After our hike, we'll visit the oldest site of beer production in the country: Brevnov Monastery, where the brewing tradition stretches back over a thousand years. Let's enjoy lunch in the monastery and some of their tasty beers (expert Evan Rail's favorite), which will be extra satisfying after our morning on the move! Once we get back to the hotel after lunch you're free to spend your last afternoon in Praha however you like. This evening we'll get together for a farewell dinner at a lively, festive brewery near our hotel where we'll toast to the amazing week we've had exploring Czech culture together!

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Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

# Sbohem Czech Republic!

DAY 8: SUNDAY MAY 20, 2018

- Sbohem means "farewell" in the Czech language...

What a wonderful time we've had! Head home today with new friends and great stories.

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Meals Breakfast



Prepare to fall in love with the absolutely enchanting city of Prague.



Prague is full of treasures for you to explore in your spare time... this is the "Dancing House" designed by star architects Vlado Milunic and Frank Gehry.



As a longtime epicenter of art & literature, you can immerse yourself in excellent museums dedicated to some of Prague's most creative former residents: explore the legacy of the star of Art Nouveau, Alphonse Mucha, or delve into the bizarre world of 20th century literary legend Franz Kafka.

# TRIP INFORMATION

beer in bohemia 2018

BEGINS	Vaclav Havel Airport, Prague   11:00 on May 13
ENDS	Hotel U Medvidku, Prague   May 20
MOBILITY	This tour includes walking for 30+ minutes at a time, plus stairs. If you have limited mobility, we can accommodate you, but it is essential to let us know at the time of registration. Travelers may always opt out of activities they deem too physically challenging but refunds will not be provided.
TRIP LENGTH	7 days, 6 nights
LODGING	Well-located and comfortable lodging with a European sense of place has been selected for <i>Beer in Bohemia</i> .  <i>Hotel U Medvidku</i>   4 Nights   An onsite craft brewery and traditional Czech restaurant with a bar, along with welcome beer at check in, make this beer-themed boutique hotel in the heart of Prague a place you'll love!  <i>Courtyard by Marriott, Pilsen</i>   2 Nights   With the best location in town and the comfort and service you can expect from a Marriott, it's the place to be in Pilsen.
TOUR DATES & PRICE	May 13–20, 2018 Double Occupancy \$1,825 per traveler Single Supplement \$400 additional <i>A \$75 surcharge applies if paying by credit card.</i>  Contact Onward if you are interested in a room upgrade. A variety of suites are available. Discounts may be available for triple & quadruple occupancy. Please note that air travel is not included and a current passport is required for travel to the Czech Republic.

## A NOTE ABOUT AIR TRAVEL:

Air travel is not included. The tour will start at Václav Havel International Airport, Prague, and end in central Prague. Please contact Onward with any questions, it is our pleasure to assist you in finding and booking the best air itinerary for your trip!

## Trip price includes the following:

- Pick-up at Vaclav Havel Int'l Airport and ground transportation throughout the trip and to/from scheduled activities.
- Four nights accommodations at Hotel U Medvidku, Prague, and two nights accommodations at Courtyard by Marriott, Pilsen.
- Most meals: daily breakfasts, six lunches, and six dinners. Expect fantastic gourmet experiences, beer (or wine!) included, of course!
- Local guides and experts throughout the tour, and an Onward Travel professional at your service!
- Activities and tours as detailed in the itinerary.

Visit [onwardtravel.co](http://onwardtravel.co) to complete the registration form and submit payment. \$1000 deposit due upon booking, balance due by March 13, 2018.

# TRIP INFORMATION

beer in bohemia

## About Onward Travel

Onward Travel is a boutique travel planning company that carefully crafts itineraries to create an authentic, engaging trip that exposes the destination and roots travelers to the place. Onward was founded by two sisters, one of whom is a Cornell University Hotel School alum (Molly Crist '10), inspired by their family's cooking school on a farm in Bucks County, PA that has offered culinary-focused travel to customers for over two decades.

## The Czech Republic in May

It's late spring in Bohemia! Expect nice days with temperature highs in the 70's and nights that can get a little chilly. A few spring showers are possible. It's a great time to visit before the summer tourist crowds really descend upon Prague. The countryside will be blossoming and beautiful.

## Miscellaneous Travel Information

- Passports are required for American citizens travelling to the Czech Republic. Visas are not required. Note your passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date of travel.
- The Czech Republic is on the koruna currency. To determine the current exchange rate, Google "USD to CZK."
- Travel Protection: Onward Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. Travel protection plans include coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay and more. For more information on the recommended plans or to enroll, contact Travelex Insurance Services at 800-228-9792 and reference location number 32-0704.
- For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverages, limitations and exclusions, please refer to the applicable Description of Coverage. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Transamerica Casualty Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio; NAIC #10952. 1308294

## Cancellation, Refund and Transfer Policies

**CANCELLATION BY THE TRAVELER.** All cancellations must be received in writing. The following conditions and fees apply:

- If you cancel 60 days prior to travel; Onward Travel retains the deposit. Any additional payments will be returned to you.
- If you cancel 30-59 days prior to travel; 50% of total Trip Fee returned to you.
- If you cancel less than 30 days prior to travel; you are not eligible for a refund and Onward Travel shall retain the entire amount paid.
- If you are late, leave the trip early, or miss any trip activities, no refund will be granted.

**CANCELLATION BY ONWARD TRAVEL.** Onward Travel may cancel a trip 60 days prior to departure for any reason. There is a minimum number of travelers required for each trip and travelers are encouraged to confirm with the hosting organization that the trip is set to take place before booking non-refundable airfare. If a trip is cancelled, Onward Travel will return your payments or transfer your payments to another trip. Onward Travel is not responsible for incidental expenses associated with the booked trip, including any non-refundable expenses incurred by you.

**TRANSFERRING A TRIP.** If you would like to transfer trip cost to another trip, you must notify Onward Travel 60 days prior to departure. Transfer fees may apply.

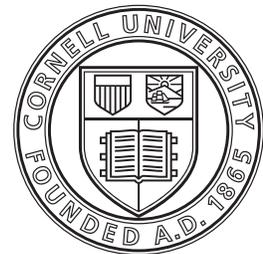


## Get in Touch!

Contact Onward Travel with any questions or special requests.  
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267-825-5880

## @onwardtravel

Check out Onward's instagram feed to get a feel for the small group fun and behind the scenes experiences our travelers enjoy!



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