

The most interesting days in the life of a tourist!

6 OCTOBER 2014

I've heard a lot about the beautiful city of Prague. I've always wanted to go there, but somehow there was no the opportunity.

7 OCTOBER 2014

The opportunity arose one day. I was passing by a travel agency in my hometown and my attention was drawn by the advertisement of a trip to Prague. I went inside without thinking. Office worker greeted me very pleasantly and he asked me how he could help. I started to ask about a trip to Prague. He showed a program of such a trip with details and what is the most important, its price. Fortunately, this was not a high price to pay, I counted in my mind my previous savings. It turned out, that I could afford such a trip.

8 OCTOBER 2014

I shared the information with my friend but what's more important, I was able to talk with her about this trip at school.

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After the preparation I was ready to go. Departure was at 3.30 a.m. (phew! Early, eh?). The journey was fine, I was sleeping almost all the way, because at this time, all people usually sleep. What is more, the coach was new and comfortable, was wonderful, warm and pleasant, and this cool music which was played.

We were at 10.00 in Prague. First, we went to the hotel to unpack, refresh and eat breakfast. The morning coffee and pastries were delicious... We went to the city after breakfast. We started sightseeing at Charles Bridge. As the guide said, it joins the two historical districts of the capital - the Old Town and Malá Strana. The bridge was constructed by Charles IV, and finished in the early fifteenth century during the reign of Wenceslas IV. It is open only for

pedestrians, you can admire the beautiful views. It is 516 meters long, 10 meters wide and is supported by 16 pillars. There are two towers at the end of both sides. We were strolling among the crowd of tourists from different parts of the world, and sellers and artists, than stopped by the sculpture of the Holy, the most popular in Czech Republic - St. John of Nepomuk. I touched reliefs on the pedestal of the statue depicting the act of the Holy thrown into the Vltava River for happiness.

Finally, we found ourselves at the Prague Castle. This is a unique of architecture and art. I was amazed by the beautiful interior. The guide told history of the castle, which ran over the centuries. Currently, the Prague Castle is the seat of the President, but many rooms of the castle were restored and opened to the public.

Then we visited the Cathedral of the Holy Wit. We learned that the cathedral is 124 meters long, 33 meters high in the nave and 60 m wide in the transept. We admired its style and beautiful stained glass windows and the piano of the eighteenth century. We stopped by the Habsburg Royal Mausoleum situated in an elaborate pulpit. We got to the Chapel of the Cathedral of the Holy. Wenceslas ending the tour. It is the largest, the most important and most impressive of all the chapels of the Cathedral. There are houses the relics of the patron saint of Bohemia - Saint Wenceslas. We payed close attention to the cycle of frescoes on the Passion – it was beautiful!

We went back to the hotel, had dinner, were resting and we moved on, to explore Prague in the morning.

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We came back to the Prague Castle. We went to admire the Monastery and Basilica of the Holy George. Then we visited the Royal Palace. I was the most amazed by Vladislav Hall, the most beautiful in the old Royal Palace. The story is interesting. It was built in years 1492-1502. Due to its dimensions (length - 62m, width - 16m, height - 13m) was the largest room in Europe. Shape of vaulting can be fascinating.

The tournaments held here in the old days and what is interesting about this so-called evidence. Equestrian stairs - the guide pointed out our attention on these stairs, they were built for entry into the Hall of riding probably, I was really impressed: the stairs to the horse entry, someone had a great imagination to invent it. Ingenious architect - I thought then ... We went onward, as it turned out it was the last point of visiting the Prague Castle. It was a street known as „Alchemists' Alley". The alley was strange indeed, but a little funny. There are legends that alchemists tried to look different specifics here and wanted to produce gold. These „small houses" were supposedly built in the sixteenth century. The guide told us, that in the house at number 22 lived Franz Kafka, the famous writer, creator of many great and interesting stories. The cottages, where you will find nowadays a variety of shops with souvenirs. I bought a few, they remind me this colorful place, and time I spent there, of course.

We went down to the Castle Gardens. I was enchanted by The Royal Gardens the most. The guide told about them with a great passion, because the story is so interesting. There was the first tulip plantation, and their bulbs went straight to the country of tulips, the Netherlands. We visited the Powder Bridge, a pavilion for football, and a beautiful conservatory. The most noticeable was the Summer Queen Anne Mansion, also known as the Belvedere. I was captivated by beautiful and picturesque fountain statues among lush greenery. I felt great among the flowers, wonderful views and stylish architecture out there. This is a real place to relax. I am not surprised that the benches were full of vacationing and alleys filled with walkers. I was sad to leave this place .

Soon after, went to The Old Town Square. This is the heart of old Prague. Here are houses and other buildings in various architectural styles. There are lots of things to admire, but it is the most beautiful at night, surrounded by fantastic lights, place which is teeming with life, tourists gather here from different parts of the world. You can hear different languages, because this is „the main point,, while exploring the Czech capital. After an hour of strolling in the city, we gathered at the agreed place, and as we collected the whole group (fortunately no one was neither too late, nor lost) we

went to the Church of Our Lady before Týn. It's one of the many symbols of Prague apparently. The interior of this church is delightful, and its shape is impressive too; it is high on the cross-ribbed vault. You can admire the gilded wooden altars. The church is a real unique of architecture, not only in the Czech Republic, but also in Europe.

Great is walking, listening to the guide, who is telling interesting stories, so you can and wonder and dream. The weather was warm and sunny as in October. We were on the Old Town Square continue. The guide pointed out the Astronomical Clock Tower located in the Old Town Hall. Our curiosity was aroused by the details of the clock, which figures appearing on the sides of the top of the dial. Each of the figures symbolizes something, namely: avarice, vanity, death, and promiscuity.

Tourists were fascinated by the view of the clock. Eyes of the visitors were full of wonder and admiration for the craftsmanship of artists who created the work.

In Prague are many sacred objects. We were in the magnificent St. Nicholas Church, the Church of the Saviour and the Church of Saints Peter and Paul. Each building impresses interesting architecture and beautiful interiors.

The Old-New Synagogue, is the main venue for religious Jews living in Prague, we can also see such nowadays.

Approached to the hotel for dinner, then we continued our sightseeing, on the way we passed an interesting building called „The Dancing House", which was erected in 1994-1996. This is one of the most modern buildings in the city. We have seen the TV tower, also interesting for its architecture. It is a pity that there was no tour program exploring the tower. The view from the terrace is breathtaking apparently. Well, maybe another time, because you have to return to Prague. You will long for the atmosphere of the city.

A feast for connoisseurs - the whole group went on the show Dancing Fountain after dinner. The performance was impressive. The combination of water, light and romantic music gave an amazing

effect! We were delighted, touched and couldn't believe that man can create such great results. We were thrilled, fascinated and delighted with the Travel Agents idea, which gave us such entertainment.

There was only one more surprise for us, a delightful stroll through the streets of the city, which at night looks really great after the performance. In the lobby, the guide informed about the departure time to home. We accepted the information with regret, because unfortunately, all is well, that ends well, I will miss Prague...

We came back home satisfied and happy, full of impressions and memories. It was a very successful trip, which will live for long in my memory. I was happy to recommend sightseeing Prague to my friends at school, as the place, which is very beautiful and romantic. If you can, just go!