

# Livingprague Newsletter

November 2021



FREE BEER AT THE LOCAL BREWERY

For the November Newsletter as well as the most recent Coronavirus status, for my featured new content I explore the quaint street called the New World, I show you some options for eating Suckling Pig in Prague, we'll go into some detail about cannabis and CBD products here plus you'll learn about the Prague Stalin Statue and where it used to be.

The Activity Spotlight is Czech Cooking Classes. Blast from the Past includes updated pictures for the Prague Metronome and the Singing Fountain in the Imperial Gardens.

Just before you launch into the newsletter take a few seconds to think if your friends or colleagues might find it interesting. If so please consider forwarding to them and they can [subscribe to the newsletter](#) separately if they want.

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Featured New Content

New World Street

Czech Food – Suckling Pig

Prague Cannabis and CBD

Prague Stalin Statue

### Blast from the Past

Prague Metronome

Imperial Gardens – Singing Fountain

### Comment

Coronavirus Life

### In The News

### Trivia and Odd Statistics

### Walking Tours

### Activity Spotlight!

Czech Food Cooking Class

### Being Social

### Surveys/Contact

# Featured New Content

---



## New World Street

The first in a new series where I explain the history of some of Prague's street names and tell you why you might like to visit. I start with the New World Street, a unique area that was originally outside of the Castle fortified walls. [Read more....](#)



## Czech Food – Suckling Pig

One of the classic Czech Garden Party food options, Suckling Pig is not commonly found in restaurants. However, some places in the city actively use it as a way of getting customers as who can resist the gorgeous aroma of cooked pork on the spit. Here I point out a couple of places to try it. [Read more....](#)



## Prague Cannabis and CBD

The biggest business growth area in the last year was shops selling Cannabis/Hemp based products. Here I explain what's legal, what's illegal and why CBD is getting popular. I give tips on where to buy both cannabis and CBD products. [Read more....](#)



## Stalin's Statue

The largest post-WW2 group statue in Europe was supposed to celebrate the great dictator Josef Stalin but despite breaking all kinds of construction records is lasted not even seven years before being blown up. Learn who designed it, how it was changed, where it used to be and what's there now. [Read more...](#)



# Blast from the Past (Updated Old Content)

---



I recently got interested in the history of the Stalin Statue which used to be here so I was waiting for a sunny day before going back up to the Metronome to take some fresh pictures and decided that it looked better from behind. [Read more....](#)



I decided to walk from Holešovice through Letna Park, then on through Chotkovy Sady and into the Prague Castle Imperial Gardens where I stopped to get this specific shot of the Singing Fountain that I'd somehow missed last time I was here. [Read more....](#)

# Comment

---

## Coronavirus Life

From November 1<sup>st</sup> there's a BIG change in the way people check if you are vaccinated against Covid-19. Up until then you could go into a bar/restaurant etc and it was only if the police or health authority person wanted to check the status he/she could ask. From November 1<sup>st</sup> it's up to the venue staff to check. Respirators i.e. FFP2 or KN95 are now mandatory in enclosed spaces.

One day I stopped in the middle of Charles Bridge, sat on the wall and listened to the languages that people were speaking as they crossed in either direction. It was a completely uncontrolled observation but after 20 minutes the most heard language was German followed by Czech, Spanish and Arabic.

The Signal Light Festival was held in mid-October and it drew the largest crowds seen in the city for more than 18 months. It was quite surreal to be jostling through crowds of happy people. As a mainly outdoor event it made masks voluntary but I can tell you there was no chance of any social distancing and had you not known that there was a pandemic at large you'd have thought it was just a regular weekend in Prague. Getting back to normal.

The Czech Health Service is publishing the latest restrictions and guidelines at <https://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/coronavirus-information-of-moi.aspx>

Up to date Czech Covid-19 Statistics can be found at <https://onemocneni-aktualne.mzcr.cz/covid-19>

# In The News

---

Well it was all about the election and the health of the President this month. To call this Parliamentary election historic would be an understatement in several ways. The Social Democrats and the Communist party who had both been in the coalition government failed to get at least 5% of the popular vote and will not be represented in Parliament for the first time since 1918. Only four political parties are in Parliament, the fewest ever. Women now make up 25% of the Parliament Chamber of Deputies, the largest block ever. Did I mention the President? The day after the election much of the population was wondering if Miloš Zeman was actually dead or if not dead then unable to ask anybody to form a new government. It was reported that the current Premier “spoke” to the President but details of what was said were not revealed to the public. Then within an hour of that meeting the President was rushed unconscious to a nearby military hospital. The new Parliament sits on November 8<sup>th</sup> but it could be another 6 months before we get the constitutional issues relating to the President (and his office) sorted out.

Also in the election, a political party formed in January this year called “Oath” exceeded 1.5% of the popular vote so it was recognised as a valid party and the state will pay it CZK25 Million plus the state provides an additional CZK9 Million each year for the next 4 years to help finance its political campaigning.

With a new parliament on the horizon the question of same-sex marriage is again being talked about. The Czech Republic was the first of the formerly Communist controlled countries to enact a same-sex partnership law but has never legalised same-sex marriage.

# Trivia and Odd Statistics

---

**The 2021 Census released data showing that there are 713 Czechs living in the country who are aged 100 or older.**

Prague Zoo is 90 years old.

**The average Prague hotel occupancy rate in 2021 is currently 18%.**

The Prague metro system carried an average of 872,000 people per day in October 2021.

**A Czech or Czechoslovak film has won the Oscar for “Best Foreign Film” three times since 1929.**

Prague is the 14<sup>th</sup> largest city by population in the European Union.

**Since January 2021 Czechs have invested more than CZK3.6 Billion into cryptocurrencies.**

1046 people filed to declare personal bankruptcy in July 2021.

**The Czech Police has been a member of Interpol since 1993.**

Czech Industrial production in the first half of 2021 was 15% higher than the same period in 2020 and reached pre-pandemic levels.

**US company NortonLifeLock paid USD8.6 Billion to take over the Czech cyber security firm Avast.**

Czech harvested 31,000 tons of poppy seeds in 2021.

**At the time of writing there were 350,000 job vacancies being officially advertised in Czech labour offices.**

A civil court case in Czech takes an average of 281 days to complete.

**The average age of a Paediatric doctor in Czech is 62.**

Approximately 166,000 Czechs are classified as either being homeless or in temporary/inadequate accommodation.

# Walking Tours

---

Bucking the trend that the Old Town and Jewish Quarter tour is always the most popular, in the beginning of last month it was actually the Prague Architecture scheduled tour and Private Tours which drew most bookings although the Old Town tour got busier later in the month. Even the Private Tours clients requested architectural content. It just goes to show that it's nice to look at the old centre of Prague but learning why it looks like it does and the associated architects brings a more rounded view of the city.

## Review

This lady first did my Prague Architecture tour with her daughter and then decided to do my Old Town and Jewish Quarter tour as well. She was kind enough to leave a review.



traveleree wrote a review Yesterday



Washington DC, District of Columbia • 5 contributions • 6 helpful votes



### Excellent Walking Tour

Review of: **Small Group Prague Old Town and Jewish Quarter Walking Tour**

I did two tours with Jason and Living Prague and enjoyed both immensely. The tours were lively, engaging and informative. There is so much to learn about this beautiful city and Jason helped me understand much of its history and architecture. The pace of the tours were perfect, not too slow, not too fast and definitely note rote. Not sure how he keeps so much information inside his head, but am thankful for his vast knowledge. I highly recommend his tours!!

[Read less](#) ▲

Date of experience: October 2021

## Viator

Viator is an online travel agent (OTA) connected to the Trip Advisor brand that carries my Old Town and Jewish Quarter walking tour. It's the same price as if you bought from my own



website but I pay an extra 10% in commission fees in the hope of a reasonable amount of traffic. I noted that there were more Viator bookings in October 2021 (mostly for US clients) than in every month since July 2019 COMBINED!

Private Tours can be arranged by contacting me and Other Tours can be booked via <https://www.livingpraguetours.com/>. Cash on the day is fine (you must agree this with me in advance) or if paying by card then credit card refunds are 96% (cost of tour minus any card transaction fee which is out of my control). See the scheduled tours status below. If going inside, all clients are required to have a FFP2/KN95 face covering available and you may be asked for proof of vaccination. I provide hand sanitiser.

## Other Tours:

[Old Town and Jewish Quarter](#) is running normally.

[City Walking Tour](#) is running normally (if Prague Castle is closed then the route changes to include John Lennon Wall, Our Lady Victorious if open and the riverside plus there will be no tram ride).

[World War Two](#) is running normally.

[Architecture Tour](#) is running normally.

[Czech Food and Beer Tasting](#) is suspended due to restaurant/bar closures. Option of food/drink is now only on Private Tours.

[Christmas Markets](#) has restrictions: "tour-only" in 2021 with time for people to buy food/drink as required.



# Activity Spotlight! – Czech Food Cooking Class

---



Czech Food Cooking Classes

If you like Czech Food then why not learn how to cook some of it. What we have here is a group cooking experience where you can either just stick to the cooking or there might be a possibility of expanding the experience to visit a market for some of your ingredients.

You're looked after for 3 hours by an experienced chef who guides you through the process of preparing and cooking a two-course classic Czech meal which you then get to eat for your lunch.






It's a very interactive and fun experience.

Check the post about [Czech Food Cooking Classes](#)

# Being Social

---

Click, Like, Subscribe, Follow, Review. Could I ask you to spend a minute interacting with one or more of the social platforms below that have lots of great content to share. Subscribe and/or follow to stay updated.

	<p><a href="#"><u>FACEBOOK</u></a>: You can read posts, view short videos, like/share content, follow and message me.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><u>INSTAGRAM</u></a>: You can view pictures, like/share content and follow me.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><u>PINTEREST</u></a>: You can view specific genre pictures, save Pins to your boards and follow me.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><u>YOUTUBE</u></a>: You view full length videos, comment, like/share content and follow me.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><u>TRIP ADVISOR</u></a>: You can view tour pictures, read and leave a tour review for others.</p>

# Surveys – Help me improve!

---

If you have a bit of time then consider a survey. It's anonymous so I just see answers to questions not who it's from.

**It should take no more than 2 minutes on any survey.**

The “Quick” survey is an overview. The other surveys are content specific. You do not have to finish the whole survey so feel free to answer as many or as few questions as you want.

Just “Send It” when you're ready. You will be helping me to improve all aspects of the sites.

**Quick Survey – 1 minute survey**

**Accommodation – 2 minute survey**

**Activities – 2 minute survey**

**Walking Tours – 2 minute survey**

**Site Navigation - 1 minute survey**



# Contact Info – Engage with me!

---



I've now put so much information, local knowledge, tips and tricks into the Trip Planner that I've now renamed it the Trip Planner and Mini-Guide which you can always [download for free](#).

But even that might not be enough to help. Sometimes all you want to do is ask a quick question, sometimes it's a bit of advice regarding an activity or accommodation etc. You're always welcome to contact me via one or more of the following options. Just keep an eye on your spam folder if using email. I reply within 24 hours.

**EMAIL:** [fun@livingprague.com](mailto:fun@livingprague.com)

**CALL/SMS/WHATSAPP:** +420 603 187856

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/livingpragueguide/>