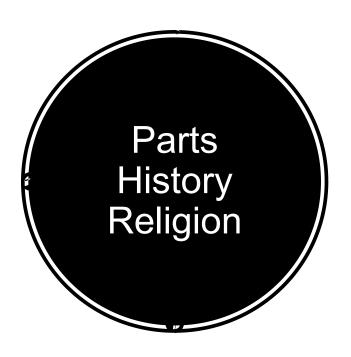
Czech Republic





The Czech Republic (/ˈtʃɛk -/ (*)listen); (*) Czech: Česká republika ['tʃɛska: ˈrɛpublɪka] (*)
listen)), ¹¹³¹ also known by its short-form name, Czechia ¹¹⁴¹ (<u>/ˈtʃɛkiə/</u> (�)listen); Czech: Česko [ˈtʃɛsko] (
♠listen)), is a country in Central Europe bordered by Germany to the west, Austria to the
south, Slovakia to the east and Poland to the northeast. The Czech Republic has
a landlocked and hilly landscape that covers an area of 78,866 square kilometres (30,450 sq mi)
with a mostly temperate continental climate and oceanic climate. It is a unitary parliamentary
republic, with 10.6 million inhabitants. Its capital and largest city is Prague, with 1.3 million
residents; other major cities are Brno, Ostrava, Olomouc and Pilsen.

• The Czech Republic is a <u>developed country</u> with an <u>advanced</u>, <u>high income social market economy</u>. [16][17][18] It is a <u>welfare state</u> with a <u>European social model</u>, <u>universal health care</u>, and <u>tuition-free university education</u>. It ranks 15th in the <u>UN inequality-adjusted human development</u> and 14th in the <u>World Bank Human Capital Index</u> ahead of countries such as the <u>United States</u>, the <u>United Kingdom</u> and <u>France</u>. It ranks as the <u>seventh safest and most peaceful country</u> and performs strongly in <u>democratic governance</u>.



The Czech Republic includes the historical territories of Bohemia, [19] Moravia, and Czech Silesia. The Czech state was formed in the late ninth century as the Duchy of Bohemia under the Great Moravian Empire. In 1002, the duchy was formally recognized as an Imperial State of the Holy Roman Empire along with the Kingdom of Germany, the Kingdom of Burgundy, the Kingdom of Italy; and became the Kingdom of Bohemia in 1198, reaching its greatest territorial extent in the 14th century. [20][21] Prague was the imperial seat in periods between the 14th and 17th century. The Protestant Bohemian Reformation of the 15th century led to the Hussite Wars, the first of many conflicts with the Catholic Church.

The oldest history



Left: Venus of Dolní Věstonice is the oldest ceramic article in the world, dated to 29,000–25,000 BCE

Center: The stone head of a Celt from Mšecké Žehrovice is among the most important artifacts in the archaeological collections of the National Museum in Prague.

Right: Distribution of Celtic peoples, showing expansion of the core territory in the Czech lands, which were inhabited by the Gallic tribe of Boil

- The core Hallstatt territory before 500 BCE
- Maximum Celtic expansion by the 270s BCE
 - Areas that remain Celtic-speaking today



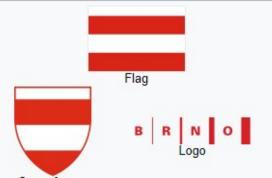
Brno

Statutory city



Montage of Brno

- · Left, row 1: Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul on Petrov hill • Left, row 2: Veveří Castle • Left, row 3: High-rise buildings • Left, row 4: Brno-Tuřany International Airport • Middle, row 1: Spilberk Castle
- · Middle, row 2: Ignis Brunensis international firework competition • Middle, row 3: Park Lužánky • Middle, row 4: Masaryk Circuit, the Brno racing circuit . Right, row 1: Church of St. James . Right, row 2: A ship on Brno Reservoir • Right, row 3: Mahen Theatre, a part of the National Theatre in Brno • Right, row 4: A part of the Brno Exhibition Centre



Brno

- Brno is the seat of the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, the Supreme Administrative Court, and the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, and a number of state authorities, including the Ombudsman, [10] and the Office for the Protection of Competition. [11] Brno is also an important centre of higher education, with 33 faculties belonging to 13 <u>institutes of higher learning</u> and about 89.000 students.[12]
- Brno Exhibition Centre ranks among the largest exhibition centres in Europe. The complex opened in 1928 and established the tradition of large exhibitions and trade fairs held in Brno. Brno hosts motorbike and other races on the Masaryk Circuit, a tradition established in 1930, in which the Road Racing World Championship Grand Prix is one of the most prestigious races. Another cultural tradition is an international fireworks competition, *Ignis* Brunensis, [16] that attracts tens of thousands of daily visitors



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