

Welcome Centre for International Scholars

NEWSLETTER JULY 2025



Celebrating 5 Years of the Welcome Centre for International Scholars

Thank you to all international scholars for your support, your presence at our events, and for being an integral part of the Welcome Centre's journey over the past five years.

This July marks a special milestone — the 5th anniversary of the founding of the **CZU Welcome Centre for International Scholars**! The Welcome Centre was created with the goal of supporting international researchers and their families as they settle into life in the Czech Republic and integrate into our academic community.

Over the past five years, the Welcome Centre has been dedicated to offering a wide array of services designed to facilitate a smooth transition and integration of our international community. We offer **comprehensive assistance with relocation, visa and residence matters, accommodation, healthcare, maternity matters, and school enrollment for children**. Beyond practical support, we also strive to foster a welcoming environment through **regular networking events, professional seminars, cultural outings, and community-building opportunities** for international scholars and their families.

A particularly popular offering have been our **Christmas or Easter Events, International Garden Party, various excursions throughout the Czech Republic, or Czech language courses**, which help our international community feel more at home and communicate effectively. We are very happy of the relationships we have built and the vital role we play in making CZU a supportive environment for global talent.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my wonderful colleagues **Martina Pad'our Šlesingerová and Alena Gentile**, whose dedication, warmth, and tireless efforts have shaped the Centre into what it is today. My sincere gratitude also goes to **Lukáš Pospíšil, Mikuláš Josek, and our colleagues at the International Relations Office** for their ongoing support and collaboration. Their commitment and teamwork have been essential in building a strong foundation for welcoming and assisting international scholars at CZU.

In celebration of this important anniversary, we warmly invite you to attend our two special events this summer (details below).

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Mirka Perst

OUR UPCOMING EVENTS



Welcome Centre
for International Scholars



Majestic Night of Music in St. Vitus Cathedral!

St. Vitus Organ Evenings
14th International Organ Festival

Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 19:00
St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague Castle

Ondřej Valenta – organ
Markéta Fassati – soprano
Barocco Sempre Giovane –
chamber orchestra

Ticket price **CZK 200**

After the concert, join us for a casual
drink to share impressions



Sign up here



MAGICAL NIGHT OF MUSIC!

Join us for the St. Vitus Organ Evenings – 14th International Organ Festival in St. Vitus Cathedral. Experience the power of classical music with performances by: Ondřej Valenta (organ), Markéta Fassati (soprano) and Barocco Sempre Giovane (chamber orchestra). Featuring works by J. S. Bach and G. F. Händel Special.

WHEN: Tuesday, July 15, 2025

WHERE: St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague Castle

COST: CZK 200 (regular price CZK 450) – thanks to Welcome Centre sponsorship!

SIGN UP HERE: <https://forms.microsoft.com/e/10gk7g2g86>

After the concert, join us for a casual drink – details to follow!

TRIP TO THE CZECH YELLOWSTONE PARK AND RELIQUARY OF ST. MAURUS AT BEČOV NAD TEPLOU CASTLE

Join us for a scenic and cultural day out, ideal for all ages! **SOOS Nature Reserve**, nicknamed the Czech Yellowstone Park, is known for its unique geological formations. This 221-hectare area of the historic Soos Forest was declared a National Nature Reserve in 1964. It features vast peat bogs and wetlands, where so-called mofettas—also known as mud volcanoes—release large amounts of mineral springs and pure carbon dioxide. A true European rarity, the diatomite shield, remains as a remnant of a long-dried mineral lake.

We will **walk along a 1.2 km educational trail** that leads across the lakebed, explore the peaceful conservation area, and **visit the on-site nature museum** to learn more about the area's rich natural and geological history.

We will also stop in **Bečov nad Teplou Castle** for the tour of this stunning castle and a visit to the exquisite **St. Maurus Reliquary**, a true jewel of the Czech Republic.

WHEN: Saturday, August 16, 2025

We will share more detailed information and sign up form soon.

A LOOK BACK TO SPRING


CZECH LANGUAGE COURSES: CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

This semester, over 30 participants successfully completed our Czech language courses, offered in two **Beginners groups and one Beginner Plus group**.

From March to May 2025, weekly lessons focused on everyday communication—building vocabulary, grammar, and real-life speaking confidence.

The final session took place at the campus store and **café UM!**, where students practiced ordering in Czech in a relaxed, real-world setting.

You can watch a short video [here](#).

 **NEXT COURSES:** Registration opens at the end of August 2025. Classes will resume in mid-October 2025.

We look forward to seeing new and returning learners!

SPRING RECAP: ENJOYING COMMUNITY, CULTURE & NATURE

Easter Day Trip to Kouřim and CZU Castle on April 12th

We explored the Open-Air Museum in Kouřim, enjoyed traditional lunch and Easter green beer at Černokostelecký pivovar, and toured the historic Kostelec Chateau. It was a day full of culture, history, and springtime charm.

Spring Saturday in Botanical Garden and Troja Chateau on April 26th

A perfect Prague day: ferry ride on the Vltava, Troja Castle tour, a scenic hike through St. Klára Vineyard, visit to the Fata Morgana greenhouse, and wine tasting at St. Claire's Wine Shop. A true celebration of nature and culture!

SUMMER EVENTS IN PRAGUE

BOHEMIA JAZZ FESTIVAL

WHERE: Prague's Old Town Square

WHEN: July 8 to 15, 2025

Top jazz musicians from around the world perform open-air concerts in Prague's Old Town Square.

INFO

LETNÍ LETNÁ FESTIVAL

WHERE: Letná park

WHEN: August 13 to 31, 2025

Prague's best festival of new circus arts, acrobatics, and theatre. A family-friendly cultural experience!

INFO

DVOŘÁK PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FEST

WHEN: September 5 to 23, 2025

WHERE: Various locations

Celebrating classical music in iconic venues like the Rudolfinum.

INFO

CZECH DESIGN WEEK

WHERE: Various locations

WHEN: September 11 to 14, 2025

Discover cutting-edge Czech design, crafts, and creativity across Prague galleries and showrooms.

INFO

EXPLORE PRAGUE'S BOARD GAME CAFÉS!

Looking for a fun way to meet people and practice Czech? Visit one of Prague's many **board game cafés**! They offer cozy spaces, games in multiple languages, and great drinks.

Some popular choices:

- **HOJBohemia Boards and Brews**: Charkovská 18, Prague 10
- **Meeples & Coffee**: Michalská 20, Prague 1
- **The Grail**: Viktora Huga 5, Prague 5
- **Geekarna**: Starokošířská 9, Prague 5

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

VISA ALERT!

Please note – when visiting the office of Ministry of Interior, always remember to bring

- Passport
- Residence permit card
- Original or certified copy of your accommodation contract or Confirmation of Accommodation

TV & RADIO LICENCE FEES

As of **May 2025**, all households in Czechia with **internet access** must pay public broadcasting license fees:

- **Czech TV:** CZK 150/month
- **Czech Radio:** CZK 55/month

Who pays?

Foreign residents with **long-term or permanent residence permits** must register and pay. **Please check with your landlord whether the fee has been paid.**

You may pay online at the official Czech Television (ČT) website, or alternatively pay by filling out a form and sending it via post (or electronically).

Need help registering? Contact the Welcome Centre for guidance.

If you have questions or need support, don't hesitate to contact the Welcome Centre for International Scholars at welcome.centre@czu.cz.



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Disclaimer:

The Welcome Center will be pleased to provide advice and support in all non-academic issues. Please note, however, that you will have to make the final decision in all issues discussed and the Welcome Center and its staff cannot take any responsibility or assume liability for these decisions. If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a friend, you can subscribe to our mailing list also via welcome.centre@czu.cz.

[Unsubscribe from the list by simply sending us an e-mail to welcome.centre@czu.cz](mailto:welcome.centre@czu.cz)

