

Dear Friends,

Czech Friends would like to invite you to this year's Central-European Gathering of Friends.

When: 2nd-5th June 2022 (Thursday dinner – Sunday lunch)

Where: Nad Královnou Hotel & Restaurant, Nad Kamínkou 1526, Zbraslav, Prague
156 000, Czech Republic

See web: <https://www.nadkralovnou.cz/en>



Theme:

CEG - Where we came from, where we are now, where we are going. We will explore the history of Friends in Central Europe, share our thoughts about the present and discuss our future and our visions.

In a series of parallel sessions, we can choose from:

- The sense of a community according to Scott Peck by Ondřej Fafejta
- Introduction to Feuerstein's method of instrumental enrichment and its possible use at mediating Quaker values at children by Irena Marušincová

As a free-time activity, there will be a guided tour of Zbraslav (now a suburb of Prague) by Gerry Turner

You can join us for the weekend on-line. More details about this option can be found in the application form below.

There will be a children's programme again after last year's success and we hope you will chip in to support Pavel and Irena as coordinators and take a role in this program (see the text below).

Venue and directions:

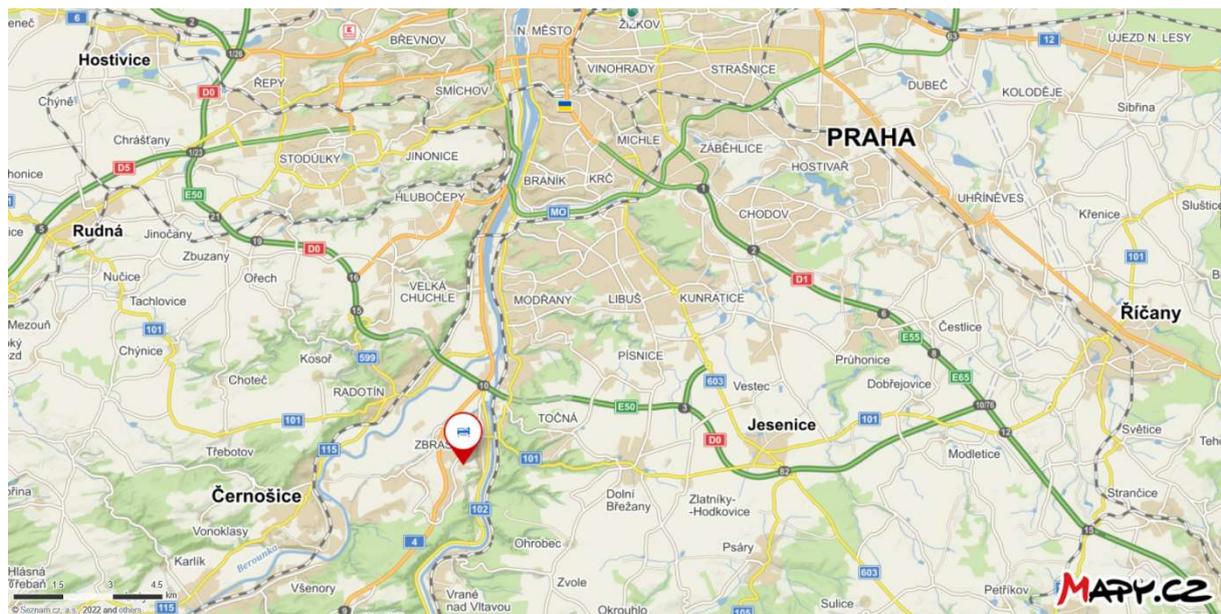
Arrival on Thursday 2nd June, registration is from 16.00. The programme starts with the evening meal at 18.00

Departure before / after lunch on Sunday 5th June

Access:

<https://en.mapy.cz/zakladni?x=14.3866186&y=49.9637331&z=17&source=firm&id=12812619&ds=1>

By car: It would be a good idea to avoid the centre of Prague and to use the highway D0 (between Brno-Prague D1 and Pilsen-Prague D5). Exit D0 at exit 10. Even better would be to avoid using a car completely :-)



By train: Go to Prague Main station or Praha – Smíchov, then continue by Prague city transport.

By coach: Go to Prague Florenc station.

By Prague city transport: Prague Main station (metro C – red line) to Florenc, then (metro B – yellow line) to Smíchovské nádraží. There are also trains going directly from the Main station to Praha – Smíchov, you can use a ticket for city transport on the train, but you must validate it on the platform.

(Praha Smíchov is the name of the train station, the name of the city transport stop at this station is Smíchovské nádraží, technically it is one stop).

Take bus 129 (direction Baně) or 318 (direction Jíloviště) from Smíchovské nádraží. Get off at Žabovřesky stop (17 minutes).

For the whole journey from whatever station, you will need to buy a 90 minute ticket, it costs 40 CZK (± 1.60 Euro), the automat at the Main station accepts a card. Buy a ticket for the way back too. Validate one ticket before entering the metro, don't validate again after changing.

After getting off the bus at Žabovřesky stop, go along the Nad Kamínkou which is about 20 m back on the other side of the road. The hotel is about 300 m down this street, on the right.

Please note that in Czechia it is not always possible to pay in Euros. If you travel through Prague Main Station (Praha – Hlavní nádraží), don't change money right in the station

building (the name of the company is ForEXchange), as you risk losing about 20 % of your money. There are plenty of exchange offices in the neighbourhood, but don't forget to check the rate and the commission before you pay. In most places, you can pay with a card and you don't need cash.



We recommend finding travel connections in Idos, a Czech central timetable to (almost) everywhere: <https://idos.idnes.cz/en/vlaky/spojeni/>
Idos website is directly connected to the Czech railways e-shop, but from experience, it is better to buy the tickets elsewhere, as international tickets, especially, are often much cheaper (3-4 times) this way. You can also try to use our excellent Czech map portal: <https://en.mapy.cz/zakladni>
For Czechia, it is more detailed than Google maps.

Accommodation: There are double, triple and four-bedded rooms. Some of the beds are double, so please let us know if you wish to share not only a room but a bed too, and with whom.

Food: We can eat all meal in the hotel, vegan food will be available.

Payment, Bursaries

We are trying to continue our approach of previous years, taking into account participants' very different incomes. As a general rule, please note that we are aiming to have nobody pay more than 10% of their monthly income. Hence, we are able to reduce the minimum fee to 60€ for the three days but that calculation only works if we do not all expect to pay only 60€

for three days accommodation, food and program... :-) If you can afford it, please pay between 60 and 200 Euro and then we are sure we can meet the costs of the event. Real costs are about 125 Euro per person for the whole stay. We are REALLY thankful to anyone who pays more than the real costs because this is actually what makes the subsidy possible in the first place. It is possible to sleep alone in a room but this increases the cost by about 50 Euro. Please consider this when you make your choice.

Children's program

There will be a specially prepared parallel programme for children based on our good experience from the last CEGs in Slovenia and Litomyšl. Please bring an object, toy, book, game or other material that would enhance the children's programme. Please consider volunteering for the children's program. There are woods and parks nearby.

Music

Following our CEG tradition, we would like to play and sing before the meetings for worship and at night. If you play any musical instrument, please bring it if you can.

Notes to filling the application form:

- If you wish to join us on-line, fill just your name, e-mail address and the amount you would like to contribute.
- Please indicate if you would like to volunteer to help with the children's program
- Let us know if there is anything else you would like to bring and share with Friends at the CEG in terms of the program.

Please find attached the application form, fill and return it as soon as possible to this e-mail address: pavel.marusinec@email.cz by 24th April at the latest.

Looking forward to seeing you in Zbraslav.

In Friendship

Pavel Marušinec

On behalf of Czech Friends, organisers of this year's CEG.