

Actor in the Shadow

Learning space for personal development and sustainability in youth work

(24th July - 31st July 2011, Nové Hrady, Czech Republic)

Hello all,

First of all - congratulations for beings selected for the course "Actor in the Shadow"!

Last weekend we - Björn, Evelina, Jitka and Honza (Jan) – investigated the venue, created a program for the course and composed this letter. Yes, we enjoyed the planning meeting immensely – your team is looking forward for the course! :) Are you?!?!

In this letter you will find some information about the venue and what to bring with you.

As you see in the program – we planned a F(L)AVORITE NIGHT. Please bring something to share with the others – it can be **something that you like**, what is important for you. It can be food, games, songs, musical instruments and reflect what YOU like.

Also be prepared to **present your work / organization** to the rest of the group in a creative way. However, do not bring too much material from home - we will work on presentation in creative ways on the spot.

If you have **interesting books or articles** that have helped you to deal with challenges in the youth work, bring them with you for the temporary library of the course.

Here is some information about the venue. For the course we wanted to have a place which would be natural, challenging, comforting and magical at the same time. We were lucky to find an old scout center in a nature reserve close to the Czech – Austrian boarder which fitted our criteria. However, we thought that it is good to tell you in advance that accommodation in this place is very simple. There will be a team of two external people that will cook for our group and will take care of the venue during the course. We planned that we as a group will commit half an hour daily for the tasks that would arise to





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make our stay in such an environment comfortable and pleasant – collecting wood for cooking, cleaning, chopping onions, etc. There will be separate dormitories for girls and boys. The two houses in the venue are located in an area surrounded by woods and fields. So please bring things useful in such an environment like a **headlamp, mosquito repellent, long pants and long sleeve shirts**. Maybe there will be a possibility to swim in a small lake, but at the moment we don't know if the lake will be filled with water. So, bring what is needed for that eventual possibility.

Things to bring:

- shoes for warm, cold, wet and dry weather, so as for indoors
- rain gear (check the weather forecast)
- F(L)AVORITE stuff
- musical instruments, games
- mosquito repellent
- head lamp
- sleeping bag
- pillow
- towel
- books and articles that were useful for you in the youth work

Enjoy preparing for this course! See you soon!

Björn
Evelina
Jitka
Honza





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mládež
česká národní agentura

Which country are you about to visit?

Some details about Czech Republic

A bit of a historical context:

Following the First World War, the closely related Czechs and Slovaks of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire merged to form Czechoslovakia. After World War II, a truncated Czechoslovakia fell within the Soviet sphere of influence. With the collapse of Soviet authority in 1989, Czechoslovakia regained its freedom through a peaceful "Velvet Revolution." On 1 January 1993, the country underwent a "velvet divorce" into its two national components, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The Czech Republic joined NATO in 1999 and the European Union in 2004.

Its capital is called Prague and it is situated more to a western part of the republic.



Weather:

The Czech Republic has a temperate continental climate, with relatively hot summers and cold, cloudy and snowy winters. Most rain falls during the summer. The temperature difference between summer and winter is relatively high, due to the landlocked geographical position.

Mid-November is when the first snow usually falls and the temperatures drop below freezing. According to Czech weather lore, November 11, the day of St. Martin, is when we can expect the first snowfall. If it does snow, we say that Martin arrived on a white horse.

Currency:

The official currency of the Czech Republic is the Czech crown (koruna), abbreviated as Kč, with the international abbreviation CZK. 1 crown consists of 100 hellers (haléř), abbreviated as hal. Heller coins have not been in use as of September 1, 2008, but hellers are still incorporated into merchandise prices. The final price is always rounded off to the nearest crown value.

The approximate value of 100 CZK is 4 EUR/6 USD.

Coins: 1 Kč, 2 Kč, 5 Kč, 10 Kč, 20 Kč, 50 Kč View Czech coins Banknotes: 50 Kč, 100 Kč, 200 Kč, 500 Kč, 1000 Kč, 2000 Kč, 5000 Kč View Czech banknotes

As the official currency, the Czech crown is the best and often the only possible currency to use when paying. Although the Czech Republic is part of the European Union, the euro is not widely accepted here yet. Some stores, restaurants and hotels accept payments in euros but the exchange rate may not be very good.





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See more at: <http://www.czech.cz/>, at the World Factbook:
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ez.html>

How do you say in Czech... 😊

| English | Czech |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Good morning | Dobry den |
| Hello | Ahoj |
| Good evening | Dobry večer |
| Where is...? | Kde je... ? |
| railway station | vlakové nádraží |
| bus station | autobusové nádraží |
| street | ulice |
| square | náměstí |
| hotel | hotel |
| city centre | centrum města |
| river | řeka |
| straight on | rovně |
| right | vpravo |
| left | vlevo |
| How are you? | Jak se máš? |
| Sorry | Promiň |
| Thank you | Děkuji |
| May I have...? | Můžu dostat ... ? |
| beer | pivo |
| a glass of red wine | sklenici červeného vína |
| a glass of white wine | sklenici bílého vína |
| mineral water | minerální vodu |



