ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY





Human Resource & Talent Management Journey to Budapest & Prague

Hungary & the Czech Republic 9 days / 8 nights November 9-18, 2017

\$5,999 (Based on double occupancy)

Enjoy the unique culture and traditions of Eastern Europe while you spend time with the locals. This adventure includes a very special village visit in Hungary!

BOOK NOW 888.747.7501

Program Highlights

- √ 8-night journey through Prague & Budapest
- ✓ Explore some of the most scenic sites of Budapest, including a panoramic tour of the city and visits to some of their UNESCO World Heritage sites including **Buda Castle** and **Heroes Square**.
- ✓ Take a walk back through time while exploring the famous **Castle District of Prague** and the **Jewish Quarter** including a visit to Strahov Monastery and Prague Castle.
- ✓ **Accompanying quest program available on this itinerary** for those not attending the professional sessions.

Community Connections

- ✓ Spend time with the locals in the **living village of Hollókő**. The village is made up of local Palóc people who still cherish their traditions and use their richly ornamented traditional costumes.
- ✓ Drive from Budapest to Prague with a short stop in **Bratislava** for lunch and an opportunity to explore some of the town's highlights including Primatial Square and Palace in Old Town.
- ✓ Enjoy a unique **Black Light Theater performance** in Prague, full of dance, music and drama.

Educational Interaction

- ✓ Interact with **HR professionals** from a variety of **companies, universities and organizations in both cities**. Learn about the role the government, employers, and education systems play in workforce development. How do they work today, and if they do not, why?
- ✓ You will also focus on **talent management and talent acquisition** with an aim to study human resource and recruiting practices and policies and to share common issues with business and professional counterparts.

What's Included:

- 5* Accommodations throughout
- All transportation and activities outlined in the itinerary
- Group transfers to and from the international airports
- International air (gateway city set tentatively out of New York)
- Local English speaking guides throughout
- Meals as mentioned and most tips

Not Included:

- Personal expenses at the hotel
- Meals not specified
- Tips for national guides
- Passport renewal or issuance
- Domestic flight to gateway city
- Departure taxes where applicable





New York Area Airport

DAY 1, Friday, November 9, 2018

Fly to Budapest

Depart from JFK and make your way to Budapest, Hungary. The stunning beauty and friendly people alone are worth a visit!

Budapest, Hungary

DAY 2: Saturday, November 10

Welcome to Budapest

Upon arrival, the group will be met and transferred for check-in at your lovely local hotel this morning. **Early check-in has been confirmed for your convenience** with lunch on your own arrangements today. The hotel has room service or onsite dining options.

Your delightful Buddha Bar Hotel Budapest Klotild Palace Hotel is a lovely 5* hotel in central Budapest. Enjoy their onsite spa, bar and two in-house restaurants. Guest rooms include free WiFi, 24-hour room service, Nespresso coffee machines, and every amenity you need for a comfortable stay.

Gather late this afternoon with your national guide and receive further information on the program during a **welcome and orientation briefing**.

Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening at a local restaurant, such as Callas Restaurant, with local live music most evenings.

Overnight: Buddha Bar Klotild Palace (or similar) Included meals: Dinner





Budapest, Hungary

DAY 3: Sunday, November 11

Cultural Exploration

Please Note: Breakfast is included daily at your hotel.

Begin your exploration of Budapest today with a visit to one of the city's **Sunday Farmer's Market**. Every seller at the market is a real first producer, who bring what they grew and/or made by their own hands week by week.

Get your bearings with a highlights tour including numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites. Start out at **Heroes' Square** and **Buda Castle**, plus other unexpected gems on this fascinating tour of magical Budapest. Stops will include the Parliament, Matthias Church, St Stephen's Basilica, and the Ethnography Museum.

Lunch will be provided this afternoon.

Late this afternoon, stop at the **Trabat Lounge** for a local beer before heading for an afternoon soak at the **Szechenyi Spa Baths**! Built in 1918, enjoy the medicinal natural hot spring waters in one of their 18 outdoor pools.

Return to the hotel where dinner is on your own this evening with time to explore independently.

Overnight: Buddha Bar Klotild Palace (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



Budapest, Hungary

DAY 4: Monday, November 12

Professional Exchange

Professional members of the program will interact with local HR business and talent management professionals today including hosts such as your counterparts at a **local recruitment center**, **government office** and/or **professional association**.

Journey Mission: The primary objective for this trip is to learn how employers find and manage workers, how government organizations develop policies and incentives for work, and how universities teach, and students prepare to participate in their economy. Focus on how employers are dealing with current demographic shifts within their respective national workforces. Understand how Eastern European governments plan for the future of the workforce; how they assist employers; and further understand how global economic developments, including the European Union, impact national workforce planning.

Lunch will be provided this afternoon.

Guest program

Today accompanying guests will explore the area with a stop first in Piliscsaba to visit the unique architecture of the Catholic University. Visit Esztergom, the oldest town in Hungary, the Baroque city center, the Cathedral and fort walls. Drive across the historic bridge to see Esztergom from Slovakia. Next stop at Visegrad, driving up to the old ruins of the Citadel for a wonderful panorama. Final stop is Szentendere, famous for its colorful houses, charming roads, shops, museums. Here there will be time for some shopping and free time before returning to Budapest.

This evening, enjoy a Silverline **Danube River cruise** to take in the evening lights and architectural wonders of the Hungarian capital as you relax over dinner.

Overnight: Buddha Bar Klotild Palace (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Budapest, Hungary

DAY 5: Tuesday, November 13

Professional Exchange

Professional members of the program will continue the professional exchange today with a **visit to a local university** this morning. Spend time meeting with faculty and students to learn what role the education system plays in workforce development and how they work with employers and the government to tackle workforce issues.

Guest program

This morning accompanying guests will tour the Pálvölgyi Cave which was discovered in 1904. The Cave is famous for its unique dripstones, astonishing stone formations, glittering calcium-crystals and prints of primeval shells.

Drive to visit **Hollókő** late this morning (1.5-hour drive) and see the living village - one of the first World Heritage sites of Hungary. It is the treasure of Palócland (the local ethnic people) and showcases the Palóc style of architecture in an intact form. The most precious part of the village is the central area with 58 protected buildings, which preserves masterpieces of 17th century architecture. Enjoy some time to explore and learn about the village, meet the local people and enjoy a late lunch.

Return to Budapest where dinner is on your own this evening.

Overnight: Buddha Bar Klotild Palace (or similar) Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch









Prague, Czech Republic

DAY 6: Wednesday, November 14

Drive to Prague

After breakfast, depart for **Prague**. Stop along the way at **Bratislava** for a quick visit and lunch at a local pub such as Dunajsky Pivovar.

Stroll along Primatial Square in the Old Town, listening to revealing facts about Bratislava's long and turbulent history. Admire the elegant, pink-and-white Primatial Palace (Primaciálny Palác) on the square and learn how it was built in the late 1700s. Hear stories of how, in 1805, it presided over Napoleon's signing of the Peace of Pressburg treaty following his defeat at the Battle of Austerlitz. Continue to Bratislava's bustling Main Square and view the Old Town Hall, the oldest of its kind in Slovakia. Walk on to Franciscan Square, a pretty square named after its 18th-century Franciscan church and monastery.

Continue onward to Prague where late this afternoon you will arrive and check into your local hotel.

The Corinthia Hotel offers sweeping views of this historic city with its gorgeous skyline. Guest rooms include free WiFi, premium tea and coffee maker, minibar and every amenity you need for a comfortable stay. The hotel has an indoor pool, onsite dining and lounge, 24-hour room service, a spa, and gift shop.

Dinner is by individual arrangement.

Overnight: Corinthia Hotel (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

• Prague, Czech Republic

DAY 7: Thursday, November 15

Professional Program

Today, your professional exchange will include meeting with a **local business**, **university and/or HR organization** to continue your interaction with the local HR staff.

Given the demographic shifts in Eastern Europe, learn what workers, employers and government leaders think about the future of business in relation to balancing work, family and community. Also discuss what workforce planning they are doing in the region.

Lunch will be included this afternoon.

Guest program

See the medieval town of Kutna Hora on this 5-hour trip from Prague. Led by an expert guide, travel by comfortable coach to explore the 13th-century area known for its silver mines. See the famous bones inside Sedlec Ossuary and the UNESCO-listed St Barbara's Cathedral. After soaking up the history, architecture, and culture of this unique town, you'll be driven back to Prague.

Dinner is by individual arrangement.

Enjoy an evening **Black Light theater performance**.

Overnight: Corinthia Hotel (or similar) Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch







Prague, Czech Republic

DAY 8: Friday, November 16

Professional Program & Afternoon Tour

Wrap up your professional program this morning with one last visit with a **local company** or **professional organization** in the field of HR & talent management.

Lunch will be provided this afternoon.

Guest program

Take in a poignant piece of World War II history on this 5-hour tour of Terezin Concentration Camp from Prague. Led by an expert guide, learn the history behind one of the largest camps in the Czech Republic and preserve the stories of the lives lost. See the complex as well as the Terezin Memorial, the only institution of its kind in the country.

This afternoon the group will take a walk back through time on our tour of the famous **Castle District**. Having evolved over 1100 years, from the seat of medieval kings to the home of modern presidents, this part of the city is steeped in more than a thousand years of Bohemian history. Start across the river, with amazing views of Charles Bridge, the Castle and the Rudolfinum. Visit the **Strahov Monastery**, the highest point of the Castle hill before continuing on to visit **Prague Castle's** courtyards and **St. Vitus Cathedral**.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

Overnight: Corinthia Hotel (or similar) Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

• Prague, Czech Republic

DAY 9: Saturday, November 17

Cultural Exploration

This morning the group will explore the **Jewish Quarter**. A visit to Josefov will show you what remains of the old Jewish Quarter of Prague.

Although much of it has been destroyed and built over by modern buildings, you can still get a feel for its past and visit the synagogues and cemetery overseen by the Jewish Museum. The Jewish population of Prague began to be persecuted during the Crusades and was eventually contained in a walled ghetto. Ironically, the survival of much of the Old Quarter and many of the artifacts in the Jewish Museum's collection is due to the Nazis, who assembled the objects and marked out the sites for a museum of an 'extinct race'.

This afternoon, delight in a **Czech cuisine cooking course**! You will learn how to prepare some typical Czech dishes with your personal chef and enjoy what you make for lunch.

The afternoon is free to explore independently today. You might opt to visit a local market such as Kolbenova Flea Market or the Prague Market.

Say goodbye as you reflect and share memories over a farewell dinner at a local restaurant tonight. Enjoy the free flow of local beer and wine along with a dinner show.

Overnight: Corinthia Hotel (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Depart

DAY 10: Sunday, November 18

Depart for home today

Depart for the airport today for your flight home. Depending on the flight time, lunch is by individual arrangement with free time to explore.

Included meals: Breakfast





Budapest, Hungary

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• Prague, Czech Republic

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