

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(THIS SECTION IS RELEVANT TO AMERICAN CHOIR PARTICIPANTS. IT IS NOT MEANT FOR GENERAL PUBLIC.)

**Q: What is Prague Choral Festival?**

A: Prague Choral Festival is a prestigious international choral festival, which regularly collaborates with the finest musical organizations in the Czech Republic - Prague Proms, Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Czech National Opera Orchestra, Musica Ecumenica and others - and the finest choral directors from Europe, Asia and the United States. Our past conductors include: Ryan Board, Matthew Mehaffey, Andre Thomas, Anton Armstrong, Raymond Wise, Tony Leach, Konstantin Yakobson and German Gutierrez.

**Q: What are the dates of the next festival in Prague?**

A: The next festival will happen in July 2016. Please see the Schedule tab for details.

**Q: Who participates in the Festival?**

A: The Festival is open to individuals (audition tape required) and choral organizations from the US and Europe.

**Q: Can my choir participate in the Festival?**

A: Please contact us for more information.

**Q: How can my choir apply for participation in the Festival? Is there a deadline to register?**

A: Please send us an e-mail with your inquiry. While there is no specific deadline, once the festival fills its quota, we will no longer accept applications.

**Q: Does the Prague Choral Festival arrange for other performing opportunities in Prague?**

A: Yes, all participating choirs will have an opportunity to perform not only in Smetana Hall, but also at other choral concert arranged during the week in Prague.

**Q: What will be the daily schedule?**

A: The detailed schedule is already available under the appropriate tab above. Please keep in mind that it is subject to change.

**Q: How much free time will there be during the festival week?**

A: The schedule will be quite full. The conductors will need to prepare about 90 minutes of challenging repertoire within a very limited amount of time. However, we have arranged for at least one free evening and one full free day.

**Q: Do you have a suggested packing list?**

A: Please click [here](#) for more information.

**Q: What transportation arrangements will be made for my choir during the festival?**

A: All choirs will be met by a private bus at Prague International airport. Transport will be arranged for all group activities.

**Q: What is the weather like in Prague in July?**

A: In general the weather is comfortable. The daily temperatures range between 20-25 degrees Celsius (68-77 F).

**Q: WHERE CAN I FIND GENERAL TRAVEL TIPS FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC?**

A: Please visit [CzechTourism.com](http://CzechTourism.com) or [Czech.cz](http://Czech.cz)

**Q: IS THERE A VISA REQUIREMENT FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC FOR USA CITIZENS?**

A: Citizens of the USA are not required to have a tourist visa to visit the Czech Republic/Schengen area for a period of up to 90 days.

**Q: DO I NEED TO TRAVEL WITH A VALID PASSPORT?**

A: Yes. The validity of your passport has to be at least 90 days after the date of your planned return from the Czech Republic to the USA.

**Q: DO I NEED A TRAVEL INSURANCE?**

A: While the festival does not require a travel insurance, we highly recommend it for all participants in case of illness prior and during the travel, any emergency while abroad, trip cancellation, lost luggage etc.

**Q: DO I NEED A TRAVEL HEALTH INSURANCE?**

A: The Czech Government requires that you have a proof of medical insurance for traveling to the Czech Republic. Minimum coverage of the insurance has to be at least \$35,000. According to the Czech government, a health insurance card or an internationally recognized credit card with health insurance included will generally be accepted as proof of insurance to enter the country.

**Q: IS MY USA CELL PHONE GOING TO WORK IN PRAGUE?**

Using USA cellphones in Prague can be tricky. Is your cellphone based on GSM or CDMA technology? CDMA technology (Verizon uses, for example) is not compatible in Europe. And even if you are using GSM cellphone, you have to make sure it operates in 900 and 1,800 megahertz (requirement for Europe). Next step is to call your operator (AT&T, T-Mobile etc) about the roaming rates in Prague. In case you own "quad band" phone and do not have 2-year plan with the operator, you MIGHT be able to get a local SIM card in Prague and have all your calls for a fraction of the roaming cost. We recommend that you talk to at least couple of service representatives (and the store where you bought your phone) to verify the information you receive.

**Q: What if I have a question to which, I can't find an answer on this website?**

A: Please send us an e mail at [praguechoralfestival@gmail.com](mailto:praguechoralfestival@gmail.com)