

## 5 - 22 Jun 2021 (18-days) Eastern Europe (Slovakia , Poland, Czech Republic & CESKY KRUMLOV FIVE PETALLED ROSE CELEBRATIONS)

Trip Costs to be announced after July2020

**Update 05 May 2020** More details on trip costs & flight details will be announced after July 2020. One highlight is 3 DAYS IN CESKY KRUMLOV to enjoy the annual **Five Petalled Rose Celebrations** - locals dress in Renaissance clothings, musical concerts and plays, food stalls and medieval markets.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** This is meant to be a "free and easy" adventure trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humor, and above all, have the right attitude for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fussy-pots, and other similarly assorted types! We had a couple of those before and it wasn't pleasant for us or them. Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun !



Dressed up for Five Petalled Rose celebrations

This will be a [backpack experience using a mix of public buses/trains and some chartered minibuses from town to town](#). The minibus hires are for day trip in Poprad, Stary Smokovec to Zakopane, Zakopane to Krakow and Cesky Krumlov to Vienna. We stay in **pensions and hostels in rooms with private bath ranging from 2 to 4 pax sharing room**. It is quite important participants are able to manage their own luggage and we **suggest backpacks or small trolley bags**. As usual, you pay for your own meals, cable car rides, entrance fees, within-the-town taxis/trams and other activities, unless stated otherwise.

**Day 1 KLIA:** Assemble at KLIA late afternoon on **5 JUNE 2021 SAT** for **Thai Airways** night flight towards Vienna with stopover in Bangkok.

**Day 2 Bratislava:** From Vienna Airport, we bus directly to Bratislava 110km 1:15 hr (1hr 15min). Relax or wander about the Old City of Bratislava and the main square. Bratislava is the capital city of Slovakia. Stay triples or quads with private bath in hostel, breakfast not included, cooking facilities available. Overnight (O/N) Bratislava

**Day 3 Poprad:** We take the morning train to Poprad 344km 4hr. After checking into our pension, we visit the pretty town of Poprad with its lively pedestrian walkway. Stay doubles/triples with private bath in pension, breakfast included. O/N Poprad

**Day 4 Dobinska Ice Caves, Spis Castle and Levoca:** We hire a minibus for a full day tour starting with Unesco listed Dobinska Ice Cave. Then we visit Unesco listed Spis Castle, one of the biggest castles in Central Europe. We finish the day in Levoca, a small but impressive town, full of fine Renaissance buildings, completely encircled by original walls and fortifications. Stay 2nd night in Poprad. Minibus cost is covered for this day. O/N Poprad

**Day 5 Stary Smokovec & Tatry Mountains:** Chartered minibus 30min in the morning to the mountain town of Stary Smokovec, located at the famous Tatry Mountains. After a quick check-in, we take the train to Tatranska Lomnica 6km and cable car up to Skalnaté Pleso 1751m. Members have the option of taking another cable car to the second highest point in Tatry Mountains called Lomniky Stit 2634m. We then walk about 3hr down to Hrebienok 1280m and descent using the funicular railway built 1908. Stay doubles/triples/quad with private bath in pension in Stary Smokovec, breakfast not included but cooking facilities available. Note that train ride to Tatranska Lomnica is covered but members pay for funicular and cable car rides. O/N Stary Smokovec

**Day 6 More Tatry Mountains:** Another day in Stary Smokovec to relax and enjoy the mountains. Today Group can visit Strbske Pleso after a 3hr hike return. We take the train 16km 40min to Popradske Pleso station to begin the 1 hour walk up. We have lunch at mountain hut before walking down towards Strbske Pleso or easier route to Popradske Pleso. There are other shorter walks in the area for members to choose from. Second night in Stary Smokovec. Return train rides to Strbske Pleso is covered. O/N Stary Smokovec



Trekking and Tatra Mountains Slovakia

**Day 7 Zakopane & Kasprowy Wierch Poland:** We hire a bus to take the group directly into Zakopane, Poland. This is the main town in the Polish Tatra Mountains. We proceed to Kuznice for a cable car ride (2019 return fare PLN99 or Rm105) up to Kasprowy Wierch 1987m, a famous snow peak in Poland. After that, group is free to wander about this beautiful mountain village Zakopane, which is filled with good-value restaurants, pubs and outdoor shops. Stay doubles/triples with private bath in pension in Zakopane with breakfast. Minibus transfer covered. O/N Zakopane for 2nights

**Day 8 Dolina Koscieliska :** At 9am, a minibus takes group to Dolina Koscieliska for a beautiful walk inside this valley alongside a pretty river. Members advised to bring along packed lunch to enjoy inside park. Group return to Zakopane in afternoon - rest of day free & easy. Second night in Zakopane. Return trip to Dolina Koscieliska is covered. O/N Zakopane

**Day 9 Krakow & Auschwitz Prison Camp:** After breakfast we go by hired minibus to Krakow. Along the way, we have early lunch before guided tour of UNESCO listed Auschwitz Prison Camp. It is the famous WW2 Prison camp, that was responsible for the extermination of more than 1.5 million Jews and other Nationalities. After the 3hr tour, we continue to Krakow. We have the rest of the day free to relax and walk about this Unesco listed town. Stay doubles/triples with private bath in guesthouse in Krakow, breakfast included. Minibus hire is covered. O/N Krakow

**Day 10 Krakow:** Members have option to join many free walking tours of Krakow in the morning. Rest of afternoon to explore Krakow's Old Town, Wawel castle and Jewish quarter. Many of the impressive structures of Krakow are built from the salt money, which was worth its weight in gold at one time. This town has the largest town square in Europe, measuring a total of 800 meters all round. Stay 2nd night in Krakow. O/N Krakow

**Day 11 Wieliczka Salt Mine:** We take the frequent local bus to UNESCO listed Wieliczka Salt Mine, one of the oldest salt mines in Europe for a 2 hour guided tour. We have the rest of the day to relax and enjoy Krakow. At night we take the overnight sleeper train to Prague Czech Republic 500km about 8:40hr. Minibus fare to Salt Mine and sleeper train to Prague is covered. O/N Train



Auschwitz Birkenau Camps / Wawel castle grounds at Krakow

**Day 12 Prague:** We arrive in Prague early morning and take local trams to our nearby hotel. After check-in, we will have a 2 hour walking tour with local guide. Rest of afternoon free & easy to enjoy UNESCO listed Prague with its amazing old architecture, which includes Prague Castle and the famous Charles Bridge. Prague 24hr Public Transport Pass of CZK110 included. Stay budget hotel in doubles private bath with breakfast provided. O/N Prague

**Day 13 Kutna Hora & Prague:** After breakfast, day trip with train to Kutna Hora to visit the famous Bone Church and Unesco listed Old City. The silver mined here in the 16th century made Kutna Hora rich and the medieval townscape is basically unchanged. We return to Prague for our final 2nd night stay. Train from Prague to Kutna Hora and public bus transfers at Kutna Hora included.

**Day 14 Cesky Krumlov:** We leave by chartered bus in the morning towards Cesky Krumlov, UNESCO Heritage site and one of the prettiest Medieval town in Europe. Our road trip takes us through scenic Czech countryside. We arrive Cesky Krumlov

by evening for the first day of the Five Petalled Rose starts today. Detailed program for 2019 can be found here <https://www.slavnostipetilisteruze.eu/en/five-petalled-rose-celebrations/> . Stay in twins/triples/quad with private baths in pension, breakfast included. O/N Cesky Krumlov

**Day 15 Cesky Krumlov:** Festivities will include Historic Costume Parade through the town, Historic Market, historic folk dance and songs, juggling acts and many other shows. Cesky Krumlov is a beautiful small town with its labyrinth of lanes and squares. Listed on the UNESCO World Heritage list, medieval Cesky Krumlov has not changed much and now is a haven for neighboring Austria and backpackers and a wonderful place to "lepak". 2nd night in Cesky Krumlov.

**Day 16 Cesky Krumlov:** Free day on the final day of the Festival. Suggest a river trip by rubber rafts or canoes down the Vltava River that meanders through the middle of the town. Almost every Czech person would have done this at least once in their lifetime. 3rd night in Cesky Krumlov.

**Day 17 Vienna/Plane:** We take an early shuttle bus from Cesky Krumlov to Vienna Austria 3.5hr for afternoon flight **Thai Airways** back to Kuala Lumpur with stopover in Bangkok.

**Day 18 Home::** Expect to arrive KLIA afternoon on **22 JUN 2021 TUESDAY**



Small town Cesky Krumlov / Prague town square

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. Trip Ground cost cover accommodation, meals and traveling to sites mentioned above.
2. Accommodations will be in doubles, triples or quads with private bath as stated above, in pensions, hostels and budget hotels. Breakfast is provided with accommodation in the places mentioned above.
3. Not covered are return flight fares & airport taxes, airport taxes, meals (Rm70 x 17 days = Rm1,190), entrance fees, cable-cars and rafting/canoeing (about Rm950 in total). In-town trams metro are not covered unless mentioned above. Transfers to and from train/bus stations to our place of stay are covered. In some places, we have kitchen facilities for self catered meals to save cost.
4. Cost is subject to change depending on fluctuations in exchange rates and/or airfares. Costs calculated based on Eur1.00 = MYR4.685
5. A deposit of **Rm2700** will be payable to confirm your place.
6. We may quickly call in more deposits should we require to pay for lower fares flights either online or through ticketing agent.

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