

WEEKEND STUDY TRIP: POLITICAL PRISONERS AT JÁCHYMOV & KARLOVY VARY

Saturday & Sunday, October 5 – 6

Detailed itinerary and more details will be provided to those who signed-up by email

ITINERARY:

- Visiting the site of Communist forced labor camp in Jáchymov:
 - Tour with a historian and member of Political Prisoners NGO
 - We'll be **guided by a survivor** of the mines
 - We'll visit the Memorial place and will hike to the mines
- Visit to a gorgeous city of **Karlovy Vary** on Sunday → free time to wander around the spa
- **Overnight accommodation, Saturday dinner, transfer and Jáchymov Museum tickets** provided by CET

JÁCHYMOV URANIUM MINES

Jáchymov's was a **Forced Labor camp for political prisoners** during communism regime. The working and living conditions were horrific – some 32 000 work-related accidents were reported in the mines between 1950 and 1960, about 450 of these accidents were fatal.

Unknown number of many more prisoners died in the camp as a result of **hunger, beatings, interrogations, harsh winter conditions**; or they were shot dead “escaping”. The prisoners called themselves **“muki”** which is a **Czech acronym for “a man destined for liquidation”**. They worked without any means of protection mining for uranium – **radioactive substance used for Soviet nuclear weapons**.



KARLOVY VARY

It is the site of numerous **hot springs** (13 main springs + about 300 smaller springs). After World War II the vast majority of the people of the town were **forcibly expelled because of their German ethnicity**.

The city is also known for the **Karlovy Vary International Film Festival**, which is **one of the oldest in the world** and one of Europe's major film events. It is also known for the **popular Czech liqueur Becherovka** and famous **Karlovarské oplatky (Carlsbad wafers)**.



The city has been used as the location for a number of film-shoots, including the 2006 films Last Holiday and box-office hit Casino Royale, both of which used the city's Grandhotel Pupp.