

## WEEKEND STUDY TRIP: CZECHOSLOVAK GULAG EXPERIENCE

(POLITICAL PRISONERS AT JÁCHYMOV)

### & KARLOVY VARY

Friday - Saturday, April 17 – 18

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

#### ITINERARY:

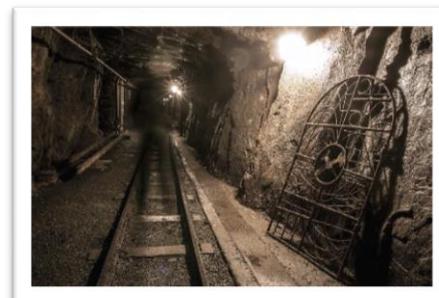
- Visiting the site of Communist forced labor camp in Jáchymov:
  - Tour with a historian and member of Political Prisoners NGO
  - We'll be **guided by a survivor** of the mines
  - We'll visit the Memorial place and will hike to the mines
- Visit to a gorgeous city of **Karlovy Vary** on Saturday →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

**"mukl"** 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**, 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 box-office hit **Casino Royale** which used the city's Grandhotel Pupp.