



# PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC HISTORIC TRAIL



## FIELD GUIDE



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
TRANSATLANTIC COUNCIL

# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This Field Guide contains information on the Prague Historical Trail designed by members of the Transatlantic Council's Pack 303 in 2018. The guide is intended to be a starting point in your endeavor to learn about the history of the sites on the trail. Remember, this may be the only time your Scouts visit Prague in their life so make it a great time!

While TAC tries to update these Field Guides when possible, it may be several years before the next revision. If you have comments or suggestions, please send them to Admin@tac-bsa.org or post them on the TAC Nation Facebook Group Page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/27951084309/>.

This guide can be printed as a 5½ x 4¼ inch pamphlet or read on a tablet or smart phone.



Front Cover: Old Town Square, Prague  
Inset: The Charles Bridge



PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC  
HISTORIC TRAIL



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# GETTING PREPARED

Just like with any hike (or any activity in Scouting), the Historic Trail program starts with **Being Prepared**.

1. Review this Field Guide in detail.
2. Check local conditions and weather.
3. Study and Practice with the map and compass.
4. Pack rain gear and other weather-appropriate gear.
5. Take plenty of water.
6. Make sure socks and hiking shoes or boots fit correctly and are broken in.
7. Pack a first aid kit, "just in case."
8. Discuss the day's activities, so there are no surprises; discuss safe hiking.
9. Ensure Two-Deep Leadership at all times.
10. Check the Quick Quiz and keep it with you on the trail.



# WHAT IS THE HISTORIC TRAIL?

The Prague Historical Trail is designed to give you and your Scouts an enjoyable and meaningful experience as you walk through the history of one of Czech's most important cities.

In looking at a map of Old Prague it will seem that many places have been omitted from the tour. This was intentionally done so that the hiker will only visit those points of interest that deal exclusively with the city of Prague.

Every Scout and adult should wear their Scouting uniforms, and act according to Scouting principles in the Scout Oath and Law. Stay together as a group. If you have a large group of more than 15, or so, then it may be a good idea to split into smaller groups, each led by adults. You will enjoy the tour better this way.

You will want to take some extra Czech Crown and or Euros (As they are both acceptable currency in Prague) with you since there are many shops with souvenirs and specialty items unique to Prague that you can buy along the trail.

The Trail is completely self-guided, meaning that all the information you need is contained within this packet. Read it thoroughly, walk the Trail, and...

Enjoy Yourself! -Užij si to!



PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC  
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# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

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## Hike

### Where and How to Start

The trail starts at the Old Town and progresses generally from East to West throughout the duration of the hike.

If you arrive by car, the best place to park is at the Palladium Mall underground near the Old Town area. If you arrive by train the best place to start on the trail is from the Praha hlavní nádraží train station at the following address: *Wilsonova 300/8, 120 00 Vinohrady-Praha 2, Czechia* or GPS Coordinates: *50.0832° N, 14.4353° E*

### Distance and Time

The entire hike is about 10.5 kilometers from the first to last stop, round trip and will take about 2.5 hours of walking, if you do not stop to see the sights. It will take about 6-8 hours of exploring if you stop in the castle, church, and outdoor places of interest, and look for the history behind these long standing treasures. So be ready to do some serious walking but it will be worth every step.

There is no set “break time” during the hike. You decide when you want to stop and take a short break for drinks or dessert. There are numerous restaurants, cafes and stands along the route. The best time to start on the hike is around nine in the morning as most shops along the route will be open (except on Sundays) at this time. Just remember, the goal is the trail, not the finish.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## START– Train Station

Your first stop on the trail will be the train station. Driving in Prague can be a bit stressful and provide a formidable experience in finding parking. This train station stop is very conveniently located near the trails start. Movement will be generally East to West from this location.

**50°04'59.6"N 14°26'06.1"E - Wilsonova 300/8, 110 00 Praha 2-Vinohrady, Czechia**

*Leave the train station heading northwest on "Vrchlickeho Sady" street. The first checkpoint will lead you to the Woodrow Wilson Statue/ Monument located just to the eastern side of "Opletalova" street. The distance is about 300 meters (About a 3 Minute Walk) from the train station to the Woodrow Wilson Statue. You made it to Prague, let's get started!!!*

## Checkpoint #1 – US President Woodrow Wilson Statue

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson and the United States played a major role in the establishment of Czechoslovakia on October 28, 1918. President Wilson's 14 Points, including the right of ethnic groups to form their own states, were the basis for the union of the Czechs and Slovaks. Tomas Masaryk, the father of the state and its first President, visited the United States during World War I and worked with U.S. officials in developing the basis of the new country. Masaryk used the U.S. Constitution as a model for the first Czechoslovak constitution. The original bronze statue of Woodrow Wilson was 3.5 meters tall and created by Czech-American sculptor Albín Polášek. It was funded by Americans of Czech and Slovak descent and erected on 4th July 1928. It was pulled down by the Nazis 70 years ago and a restored copy was re-erected in 2011 by the non-profit organization The American Friends of the Czech Republic. "The monument that stood here was one not only to a great American president but also a monument, a symbol that recognized the close and lasting ties between our two nations.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #1 – US President Woodrow Wilson Statue (cont.)

That monument recognized the many people who left here, who moved and settled in the New World and who made the United States a better country, the country it is now..." Norman Eisen (U.S. ambassador to the Czech Republic in 2011)

LEGENDS SAY: Wilson is the only U.S. President buried in Washington, D.C. The 28th President is in a sarcophagus at the Washington National Cathedral. He won the Peace Prize for 1919 as the leading architect behind the League of Nations. It was to ensure world peace after the slaughter of millions of people in the First World War. He is thought to bring continued piece to the region.

**50°05'02.0"N 14°25'59.2"E - pletalova 33, 110 00 Nové Město**

(<https://afocr.org/us-czech-relations-0> <https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/10-fascinating-facts-about-woodrow-wilson>)

Quiz Questions: Question 1 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. You Got It!!

*Once you have observed the public monument of our 28th US President, continue northwest along "Jeruzalemska" street until it merges into "Senovazna" street and continue due north until you reach Checkpoint 2 , the famous "Municipal House" also commonly referred to as The Royal Palace. The distance is about 600 meters (About a 7 Minute Walk) from the Woodrow Wilson Statue to The Municipal Building. Take in the sites!!*



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# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #2 – The Municipal House

Prague Municipal House, product of a collaboration between renowned architects and artists of the turn of the 19th and 20th century, is one of the most beautiful examples of the Art Nouveau style in the Czech Republic. Today's Municipal House and King's Court Hotel stand on what was the site of The Royal Palace, which had been the temporary seat of sovereign power from 1380. The location was chosen by King Wenceslas IV (1378 – 1419), who did not consider Prague Castle suitable for his needs. The Palace was also favored by some of his successors, namely his younger brother Sigismund of Luxembourg and King George of Poděbrady. Only during the reign of the Polish Jagiellon dynasty (1471 – 1526) has Prague Castle again assumed the center of royal authority. The Royal Palace gradually fell into disrepair and was further destroyed during the extensive fire of 1689, which devastated large parts of the Old Town. In 1777 the remains of the structure were entirely rebuilt and the King's Court Barracks were established there. From 1869 a school for military cadets was also located there but was moved to Prague Castle in 1895.

LEGENDS SAY: The reconstruction of the Municipal building started in 1905 and lasted seven years. There were two architects charged with the rebuilding task – Antonín Balšánek and Oswald Polívka. Rumors at the time said that two architects were chosen simply because the government was not able to decide on which of the plans were better. So it is said that the government was forced to use both men's design ideas into one building, the one we enjoy today.

**50°05'15.7"N 14°25'40.0"E - Náměstí Republiky 5, 110 00 Praha**

<http://www.gemaart.cz/en/reference-projects/2012/76-municipal-house-prague-old-town>

Quiz Questions: Question 2 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. Keep your eyes peeled!!



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #2 – The Municipal House (cont.)

*The Neo-Baroque Building is beautiful on the outside and even more so on the inside. (Optional) You may purchase a family ticket for 500 CZK (Equivalent to about \$22.00) and take a guided tour if you like. Leave The Municipal Building heading head just south till you reach the amazing Powder Tower or Powder Gate as it is also called. The Distance is about 55 meters (Less than a Minute Walk) from The Municipal Building to The Powder Tower/Powder Gate. There are many souvenir shops and eateries in this area, try some local food items you won't regret it!!*

## Checkpoint #3 – Powder Tower/ Powder Gate

It is one of the original city gates. It separates the Old Town from the New Town. The Powder Tower is one of the original 13 city gates in Old Town, Prague, Construction began in 1475. The tower was intended to be an attractive entrance into the city, instead of a defensive tower. The foundation stone was placed by Vladislav II. The city council gave Vladislav II the tower as a coronation gift. While it was being built, it was called the New Tower. The look of the tower was inspired by the work of Pete Parler on the Charles Bridge. Vladislav II had to relocate due to riots, so the tower building stopped. He returned in 1485 to live back in Prague Castle, where he lived for the rest of his life, along with the rest of the Kings of Bohemia who lived in Prague. Kings would not return to use the tower or Royal Court until using it for coronation ceremonies starting again in 1836, where they would pass through the tower to go to St. Vitus Cathedral. The gate was used to store gunpowder in the 17th century, hence the name Powder Tower or Powder Gate.

LEGENDS SAY: The tower was part of a series of protective walls to protect the people from a Golem created by a Rabbi named Loew who wrote the words "Emet" across the creature's forehead meaning "Truth" but every time it was summoned, it would get more and more powerful destroying innocent people. So for the protection of the Jewish people from retaliation, the Rabbi banished the Clay Golem by removing the "E" from its forehead inscription to read "Met" meaning "Death".



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #3 – Powder Tower/ Powder Gate (cont.)

50°05'14.2"N 14°25'39.6"E - nám. Republiky 5, 110 00 Staré Město, Praha 1  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powder\\_Tower,\\_Prague](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powder_Tower,_Prague))

Quiz Questions: Question 3 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. You Got It!!

*You may opt to tour the Powder Tower (Optional) with a family ticket for 250 CZK (~\$11.00). Leave the Powder Tower/Powder Gate heading west on "Celetna" street until you reach the very unique and one of a kind House of Black Madonna. The Distance is about 170 meters (About a 2 minute walk) from the Powder Tower/Powder Gate to The House of Black Madonna. Take some great photos from up there!!!*

## Checkpoint #4 – House of Black Madonna

The House of Black Madonna was designed by Josef Gočár between 1911 and 1912 as a multifunctional building with shops on the ground floor and offices, flats and the legendary Orient coffee house with its cubist furniture on the floors above. It is a real architectural masterpiece with huge Cubist windows and facades broken into multiple planes in order to create an unusual interplay of light and shade. Behind a grille on the first floor is the statue of the Madonna, which gives the building its name. Upstairs is a beautiful and stylish café. Inside the building, you can see a permanent exhibition on Czech Cubism, which is unique to Bohemia although Cubist painting is common in Europe.

LEGENDS SAY: According to legend if the likeness of Madonna (Latin for "My Lady") or "Virgin Mary" in paintings, statues or similar images are to be placed, her presence marks the secret entrance to underground corridors and other mysterious spaces.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #4 – House of Black Madonna (cont.)

50°05'13.2"N 14°25'31.3"E - Ovocný trh 19, 110 00 Staré Město  
(<https://www.prague-guide.co.uk/the-house-of-the-black-Madonna>)

Quiz Questions: Questions 4 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. Be observant!!

*In addition to enjoying the structural uniqueness of the Café and its food items you may opt to take a tour of the building to view the cubist furniture, intricate staircase and various art items (Optional) You may purchase individual tickets for adults at 150 CZK (~ \$6.00) with children under 15 free of charge. Leave The House of Black Madonna heading west on "Celetna" street until you reach the World Famous Prague Astronomical Clock. The Distance is about 350 meters (about a 5 minute walk) from the Powder Tower/Powder Gate to the Astronomical Clock.*

## Checkpoint #5 – Astronomical Clock and Old Town Square

The medieval astronomical clock adorns the southern wall of the Old Town City Hall in the Old Town Square. It announces every hour with 12 apostles passing by the window above the astronomical dial and with symbolic sculptures moving aside. The astronomical clock was placed at the front side of the tower in 1410. At the southern part of the tower, a special stone chamber was built for its mechanical part. The astronomical clock consists of different parts – such as a calendar and an astronomical desk or the mechanism of twelve apostles, which sets them in motion. During the apostles' parade, other figures placed on the sides of the astronomical clock set in motion too. The skeleton rings, rotates an hourglass in order to show to the Turk that his lifetime is at the end. He shakes his head. The Vain Man and the Miser behave similarly.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #5 – Astronomical Clock and Old Town Square (cont.)

LEGENDS SAY: It was believed, that the author was clock master Hanus, also called Jan of Ruze, who lived in the 15th century. The story said that the clock was admired by many foreigners, but Hanus refused to show construction plans to anybody. When Prague Councilors found out that he was going to make another, even better clock, they became jealous and blinded him so he could not finish it. Later he allegedly damaged the astronomical clock in revenge, and nobody was able to repair it.

**50°05'13.1"N 14°25'14.8"E - Staroměstské nám. 1, 110 00 Josefov**

<http://www.prague.cz/astronomical-clock/>

<https://www.prague.eu/en/object/places/3129/astronomical-clock>

Quiz Questions: Questions 5-11 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. Good Luck!!

*Once you have observed the famous clock ring on the hour and see the apostles pass through the windows as well as the skeleton ringing the bell with the hourglass in his hands then you may continue your adventures around the Old Town Square which is essentially co-located with the Clock, see the local shops do a bit of souvenir shopping and try a local food favorite called a "Trdlo" there are many variations in size, color, flavor; try these local desserts you won't regret it. Once ready, continue southwest onto "Male nam" street which transitions to "Karlova" street then turn left, straight south onto "Husova" street until you reach Sigmunda Freuda who is a daring and dangling sculpture above you. The distance is about 450 meters (About a 5 minute walk) from the Astronomical Clock to Sigmunda Freuda. Just take your time and enjoy the city for its beauty.*



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #6 – Sigmund Freud

Sigmund Freud was an Austrian neurologist and the founder of psychoanalysis, who created an entirely new approach to the understanding of the human personality. He is regarded as one of the most influential - and controversial - minds of the 20th century. Sigmund (later changed to Sigmund) Freud was born on 6 May 1856 in Freiberg, Moravia (now Příbor in the Czech Republic).

LEGENDS SAY: Psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud hanging by a hand and pondering whether to hold on or let go, some say the sculpture is the mind of Sigmund Freud floating around outside of his body during a dream.

**50°05'03.0"N 14°25'05.8"E - Husova 5-1, 110 00 Staré Město, Czechia**  
([http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/freud\\_sigmund.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/freud_sigmund.shtml))

Quiz Questions: None at this location. Don't miss Sigmund hanging above you!!

*Although not belonging to the history of Prague itself, the walk through the Old Town streets and observing this strange statue hanging overhead is worth the visit for some cool pictures. Once complete, travel back north on "Husova" street and turn left heading west on "Karlova" street until it transitions into "Karlův Most." Then you will walk straight into the Charles IV Square and within the threshold of the beautiful Charles Bridge. The distance is about 550 meters (About a 7 minute walk) from Sigmund Freud to Charles IV Square. Sometimes we gotta look up to see the wonders of the world!!*



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #7 – Charles IV Square

Statue of Charles IV., the Holy Roman Emperor and King of Bohemia, is situated at the Knights of the Cross Square near the Charles Bridge. It is one of the most important neo-Gothic statues in Central Europe. Charles IV., often called Pater Patriae (father of the country), was an important personality of the medieval Europe. He made Prague the capital of the Holy Roman Empire and he had many buildings built in the city. He also founded the oldest university in Central Europe – the Charles University – in 1348.

Many places and buildings in Prague and in the whole country bear his name: the Charles Bridge, the Charles Square, and others. His monument was made on the 500th anniversary of the founding of the Charles University in 1848.

LEGENDS SAY: That Charles IV, Holy Roman Emperor, and benefactor who commissioned the construction of the Charles Bridge laid the first stone on 9 July 1357.

**50°05'10.7"N 14°24'50.1"E - Křižovnická 1040/2, 110 00 Praha 1-Staré Město**  
(<http://www.prague.cz/charles-monument/>)

Quiz Questions: Question 12 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. You Got It!!

*Observe the Square and the sculpture of Charles IV before stepping on the Bridge dedicated to the early Holy Roman Emperor. Continue west onto the Charles Bridge which is no more than 50 meters (Less than a minute walk). Get your camera ready, there is lots to see and capture!!*



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #8 – Charles Bridge

Charles Bridge construction started in 1357 under the auspices of King Charles IV, and finished in the beginning of the 15th century. The bridge replaced the old Judith Bridge built 1158–1172 that had been badly damaged by a flood in 1342. The numerical palindrome 135797531 carved on to the Old Town Bridge Tower at the east end of the bridge is far from random. This sequence, which reads the same backward and forward, refers to the exact time and date of the placement of the bridge's foundation stone, determined by royal astrologers as an auspicious time. Work began on the 9th of July 1357 at 5:31am.

Many a visitor to the Charles Bridge has stood in front of the bronze statue of John of Nepomuk, the first one placed on the bridge in 1683, and rubbed the plaque showing his martyrdom to get good luck. The scene shines bright amid the bridge's blackened statues and plaques. Nearby however, is a second plaque featuring a shiny dog that also attracts the superstitious touches of many visitors to Prague.

LEGENDS SAY: Rumor has it however, that this dog has no lucky value whatsoever, and only shines because mischievous local students decided to shine the dog one night to chuckle at the hordes of misled tourists that flock to the bridge and touch it every day. The Charles Bridge has many more secrets, and some are a bit more dubious. A golden sword is said to be buried in it but has yet to be found.

**50°05'11.3"N 14°24'41.2"E - Karlův most, 110 00 Praha 1, Czechia**

<https://www.praguepost.com/166-expats-in-cz/50933-10-fun-facts-you-should-know-about-charles-bridge>

Quiz Questions: Questions 13-17 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. You Can Do It!!



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #8 – Charles Bridge (cont.)

*Take in all the beauty of the Charles Bridge, take pictures of the 30 elaborate sculptures/statues along the axis of the bridge. Peruse the many vendors and artists along the bridge as well, you might be tempted to take home a special souvenir. It's 516 meters to cross the Charles Bridge, but worth every step. Continue west on Karovy Most until you head south onto Lázeňská Take this until you reach Prokopská and head northwest until you reach Karmelitská. Then you have made it to the humble home of the Infant Jesus of Prague, the Church of Our Lady Victorious. The distance is about 950 meters (about a 12 minute walk) from the Charles Bridge to the Infant Jesus of Prague. Keep soaking in the sites and enjoying the trail, no rush!!*

## Checkpoint #9 – The Infant Jesus of Prague

The Infant of Prague statue is one of the most popular Christian statues in the world and yet relatively few people know the origins of it. The statue's history is fascinating, associated with various legends and miracles. Most historians believe that the original statue was carved in Spain around the year 1340 in a Cistercian monastery. Some traditions claim that a monk had a vision of the child Jesus and fashioned the statue after what he saw. The statue remained in Spain for several centuries and a pious tradition claims that St. Teresa of Avila possessed the statue in the 16th century. Whatever the case may be, the statue found its way to Prague during the reign of the House of Habsburg in 1556. At this point it was given by Dona Isabella Manrique as a wedding gift to her daughter Marie Manrique, who married Vratislav of Pernstyn. Some traditions claim that Dona received the statue from St. Teresa of Avila.

LEGEND SAY: While cleaning the statue the priest heard the Infant Jesus say to him, "Have pity on Me and I will have pity on you. Give Me my hands and I will give you peace. The more you honor Me, the more I will bless you." When the priest needed more funds to repair the statue the Infant Jesus said to the priest, "Place Me near the entrance of the sacristy and you will receive aid." What was needed was miraculously provided and the statue was restored.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #9 – The Infant Jesus of Prague (cont.)

50°05'08.8"N 14°24'14.2"E - Karmelitská 9, Malá Strana, 118 00 Praha 1

<https://aleteia.org/2018/01/22/a-brief-history-of-the-legendary-statue-of-the-infant-of-prague/>

Quiz Questions: Questions 18-20 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. Keep Going!!

*Now, its time to head over to St. Vitus Cathedral! Head north on "Karmelitska" street and turn left traveling west on "Malostranke nam" street, follow this road as it turns right heading north until you reach "Thunovska" street. Turn left traveling west on "Thunovska" street until you enter the castle complex grounds. The distance from the Church of Lady Victorious to the St. Vitus Cathedral is about 1 kilometer.*

## Checkpoint #10 – St Vitus Cathedral

St. Vitus Cathedral is a Roman Catholic cathedral in Prague, and the seat of the Archbishop of Prague. The full name of the cathedral is St. Vitus, St. Wenceslas and St. Adalbert Cathedral. This cathedral is an excellent example of Gothic architecture and is the biggest and most important church in the country. In the chancel of the cathedral, in front of the high altar, is the royal mausoleum. Below this, in the crypt, are the royal tombs. Czech kings and queens, and patron saints of the country are interred here.

LEGEND SAY: A prophet said to Czech king Wenceslas IV. that he would die in front of the cathedral Bell Tower. The king was so scared that he wanted to destroy the tower. When the first floor was taken down, Prague was full of news about outbreak of the Hussites' movement. The king was so angry about the news that he got a heart attack and died soon after that.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #10 – St Vitus Cathedral (cont.)

50°05'26.5"N 14°23'59.2"E - III. nádvoří 48/2, 119 01 Praha 1, Czechia

(<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ak-74/13700973523>)

Quiz Questions: Questions 21-23 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. Doing Great!!

*After exploring the cathedral exterior, you can visit the interior. (Optional) Ticket pricing varies on package deals but the most you will pay is 700 CZK for a family ticket (~\$30.00) called the "Prague Castle – Circuit A Ticket" which includes: St. Vitus Cathedral, Old Royal Palace, exhibition "The Story of Prague Castle", St. George's Basilica, Golden Lane with Daliborka Tower and Rosenberg Palace gardens and courtyards. After you finish, proceed to the northeast to explore the Castle Complex grounds as well as experience the Golden Lane. The distance is about 400 Meters from St Vitus Cathedral to the Golden Lane tourist street. Continue Northeast through the Castle grounds until you enter and walk through the Golden Lane street.*

## Checkpoint #11 – Prague Castle / Royal Palace

Prague Castle is a castle complex in Prague, Czech Republic, dating from the 9th century. Starting in the 10th century, the Prague Castle served as the seat of Czech princes and later kings, and the seat of the Prague bishop. Today, it is the official residence and office of the President of the Czech Republic. According to the Guinness Book of Records, Prague Castle is the largest ancient castle in the world, occupying an area of almost 70,000 square meters (750,000 square feet), at about 570 meters (1,870 feet) in length and an average of about 130 meters (430 feet) wide. Prague Castle was founded around 870 by Prince Bořivoj of the Premyslid Dynasty. At the eastern end of the Golden Lane stands a round tower, shrouded in legend. Dating back to 1496, the tower, which served as a prison until 1781, is named after its first inmate – Dalibor of Kozojedy.



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Checkpoint #11 – Prague Castle / Royal Palace (cont.)

LEGEND SAY: A man called Dalibor from Kozojedy from a small town near Litoměřice, was sentenced to death and imprisoned in the tower for giving shelter to some rebellious peasants. While waiting for the fatal day, Dalibor would play his violin and his music was so beautiful that all the people of Prague were moved and enchanted and the local authorities didn't dare announce the date of the execution. People knew that the generous Dalibor was dead when his violin fell forever silent.

**50°05'27.9"N 14°24'05.8"E - 119 08 Prague 1, Czechia**

(<http://justfunfacts.com/interesting-facts-about-prague-castle/>)

([http://www.myczechrepublic.com/prague/history/prague\\_legends.html](http://www.myczechrepublic.com/prague/history/prague_legends.html))

Quiz Questions: Questions 24-25 of the Trail Quiz can be answered at this Checkpoint/Location. Do Your Best!!

*After observing the exterior, interior (Optional), gardens and courtyards you may also observe the Changing of the Guard. Changing of the Guard takes place in the first courtyard of Prague Castle at 12:00pm daily. This is the formal handover carried out with a fanfare and banner exchange. The sentries at the gates of the medieval castle are changed every hour from 07:00am. If you wish to take a tour of the castle, tickets are valid for two days (the day of the purchase and the following day). Purchased tickets can not be refunded. Tickets are available in Information Centers of Prague Castle in the second and in the third courtyards, in the Prague Castle Picture Gallery, in the Old Royal Palace and at two ticket offices in the Golden Lane. After taking in the amazing Prague castle complex, exit the southwest courtyard and travel north on "U Prasneho Mostu" street. Take a right, heading northeast on "Kralovska Obora" street and walk along the Stag Moat. The distance from the Castle Grounds to the Stag Moat is about 350 meters.*



# HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

## Final Checkpoint #12 – Stag Moat (Optional)

\*\*\*Open Apr 1st - Oct 31st\*\*\*

Inside the walls of Prague Castle there are buildings dating as far back as the 9th century. Even the newer ones are from the Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance periods, and together, along with the formal gardens, they make up one of the largest castle complexes in the world. Along the north side there is a wild glen called Jelení příkop (the Deer Moat), originally part of the Castle's fortification and later a private hunting ground for the king. The royal stock of stags (and even a few bears) is gone, and today the Deer Moat is a public park of inviting lawns and shaded woods, with a stream channeled down the middle. It's all easily traversed via stone steps, paved paths, swinging timber walkways, and a 275-foot (84 m) pedestrian tunnel that runs underneath the famous Powder Bridge. The Brusnice Stream was drained to the underground pipes in 1899 creating a lovely natural ravine. During the reign of Rudolf II the moat was fenced and used for breeding and hunting of deer, hence the Deer Moat's name.

LEGEND SAYS: The Stag Moat was also home to bears at one point, which were thought to be the protectors of the Prague castle.

50°05'30.3"N 14°23'59.2"E - 118 00 Prague 1, Czechia

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/pedestrian-tunnel-the-deer-moat>

<https://www.prague-stay.com/lifestyle/review/839-the-deer-moat>

Quiz Questions: No trail questions at this location, just take in the sites as you go and have fun!!

*This is a wonderful green place to wander about in the small meadows and paths or to relax on the moat's many benches; make sure to search for the whimsical Bear Keeper's Cottage and the sleek walk through tunnel built in 2002 and designed by Josef Pleskot AP Atelier. You are now at the end of the hike. You can re-trace your steps or go off adventuring on your own. You did it!!*





1



5



The famous Prague Easter Market (Spring market) in the Prague Old Town conducted between March- April each year!



2



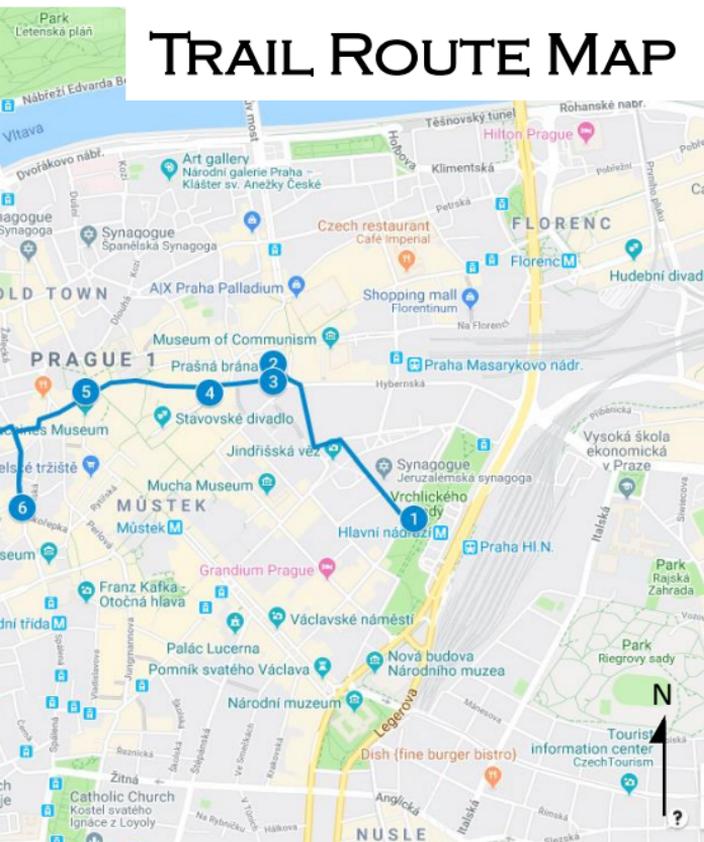
3



4



# TRAIL ROUTE MAP



12



11



9



6



7



8



PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC  
HISTORIC TRAIL

# BACKGROUND INFO

The history of the city goes back to the foundation of Prague Castle by Bořivoj in 870 AD. Prague Castle has been a symbol of Czech history for centuries. After 894 it became the main seat of the oldest ruling dynasty of the state Bohemia, the Premyslid princes (Premyslovci).

The first to leave a written record of the existence of a busy commercial center and settlement below Prague Castle was the Arab-Jewish merchant Ibrahim Jakub Ibn, who visited Prague in 965 or 966 and described it as a town "built of stone and mortar". During the first half of the 11th century, on the opposite bank of the Vltava, another castle was founded, called Vysehrad. The first stone bridge (Judith's) was built in 1172 and named after the queen Judith.

Prague became a town during 13th century and the Old Town and the Little Quarter were founded by colonization. The beginning of the 14th century saw a series of dynastic disputes - beginning with the death of Vaclav II. from consumption and excess in 1305. The following year, the murder of his son, the heir, Vaclav III., marked the end of the Premyslid dynasty and Bohemia was left without a male heir.

In 1310 Czech nobles offered the throne to John of Luxembourg but it was his son Charles IV. (1346-1378), king of Bohemia and Holy Roman Emperor, who ushered in Prague's golden age and made it his residential capital. King Charles IV. carried out the reconstruction of Prague in High Gothic style, adding new, expensive buildings such as the Castle, at Vysehrad and in the town.

He founded the oldest university in Central Europe in Prague (1348), Charles University, founded and built the New Town of Prague (1348) and adorned his residential town with numerous structures and public buildings like Charles Bridge (1357), magnificent St. Vitus' cathedral, the Slavonic Abbey, the church at Karlov and many others. With its 50,000 inhabitants and covering an area of 8.1 km<sup>2</sup> Prague became the largest town in Europe at that time. Shortly after the Emperor's death in 1378 difficulties cropped up.



## BACKGROUND INFO (CONT.)

In 1541 there was a great fire at Prague Castle, in Hradčany and in the Little Quarter. Nor did Prague become the seat of the throne when Ferdinand, the Roman Catholic Hapsburg was elected King of Bohemia (1526) and the Kingdom of Bohemia became part of the Hapsburg monarchy and after the defeat of the first anti-Hapsburg uprising of the Bohemian Estates (1547) the Prague towns people lost a large part of their property and political privileges. But it was a period when culture flourished thanks to the personality and court of the art-loving Emperor Rudolph II. (1576-1612) who moved his seat to Prague in 1583 and endowed Prague's galleries with the best Mannerist art in Europe and invited the respected astrologist Tycho de Brahe and Johannes Kepler and other famous scientists to his court. From 1575 to 1577 there was a struggle over the Bohemian Confession, from 1608 to 1611 one of the focal points was the question of a successor to Rudolph II.

The defenestration at the Prague Castle in 1618, when the governors of the king were thrown out of the window after a dispute, marks the date the 30 year war started in Europe with the Catholics and the reformed fighting each other. After the "Battle of the White Mountain" where the Catholic Hapsburgs won, 27 of the leaders of the losing team were decapitated on June 21, 1621 on Old Town square. This day marks the coming of the dark ages for the Czechs, when the Hapsburgs took over until 1918. During this time, the German language is introduced as the second, if not the more important language in the country.

Unmistakable signs of reawakening appeared in Prague towns at the outset of the 18th century. During the reign of the Hapsburg queen Maria Teresia, education was made mandatory for all children, boys and girls. Commercial life developed favorably and many factories started working in the city. In 1784 Emperor Joseph II. merged the four historical Prague Towns (the Old Town, New Town, Little Quarter and Hradčany) into one unified Capital City of Prague, which became the core of industrialization of Bohemia and the center of Bohemian national revival. In Prague in the Josephine era the most diverse influences came to bear, giving rise to favorable conditions for the advance of the Czech National Reawakening.



# BACKGROUND INFO (CONT.)

After WWI, in 1918, Czechoslovakia became a republic with Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk becoming its first president.

At the end of 1930's, on 15th March 1939 Hitler's armies occupied Prague. The anti-fascist resistance of the people of Prague lasted more than six years, and, after the closure of the Czech universities on 17 November 1939 (International Student's Day) and the assassination of the "Reichsprotektor" R. Heydrich (27 May 1942), reached its culmination in the Prague Uprising (5-9 May 1945).

After 1945 Prague's role, size, structure and social importance were decided even more emphatically by national aspects imposed on it, without taking much account of the city's own development needs. With the Cold War in full swing the Stalinization of Czechoslovakian society was quick to follow.

In the year 1968 movement demanding "socialism with a human face" reached its climax. This events of the, so-called "Prague Spring", lead to the invasion of Czechoslovakia. On 21st August 1968 five countries of the Warsaw Pact occupied Prague.

1989 brought democracy to the country with Václav Havel becoming the president. On January 1st 1993, after the split of Czechoslovakia, Prague became the capital of the Czech Republic.

During 2003 the people of the country voted to become a member of the European Union. This has taken effect on May 1, 2004.

Retrieved from online website:

<http://www.guidingprague.com/en/prague-overview/brief-history-of-prague>



# LANGUAGE BASICS

## Basic Czech Phrases

YES	= ANO (ano)
NO	= NE (ne)
PLEASE	= PROSÍM (proseem)
THANK YOU	= DĚKUJI VAM (dyekooyi vam)
GOOD MORNING	= DOBRÉ RÁNO (dobrye rano)
GOOD AFTERNOON	= DOBRÉ ODPOLEDNE (dobrye odpoledne)
GOOD NIGHT	= DOBROU NOC (dobroh nots)
HELLO	= DOBRY' DEN (dobree den)
GOOD-BYE	= NA SHLEDANOU (nas-khledanow)
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?	= JAK SE JMENUJETE? (yak se menooyete)
MY NAME IS...	= JMENUJI SE... (menooyi se)
HOW ARE YOU?	= JAK SE MÁTE? (jak se mahte )
FINE THANKS, AND YOU?	= DOBRĚ DĚKUJI A VY? (dyekooyi dobrzhe, a vi)
I UNDERSTAND.	= ROZUMÍM (rozoomeem)
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.	= NEROZUMÍM. (nerozooeem)
DO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH?	= MLUVÍTE ANGLICKY? (mlooveete anglitskee)
I DON'T SPEAK CZECH.	= NEMLUVÍM C'ESKY. (nemlooveem chehskee)
NICE TO MEET YOU	= TĚŠÍ MĚ. (tyeh-sheee mnyeh)



# HISTORIC TRAIL QUIZ

1. President Woodrow Statue is set in front of a patriotic throne of piece, what animal supports both sides of Woodrow's statue throne?\_\_\_\_\_ . (Checkpoint 1)
2. When observing the Municipal Building exterior façade you will see a painting of a semi reclining man representing "Drama" with a naked women representing "Music". To the right of the naked woman what musical instrument is being played by the musician?\_\_\_\_\_ . (Checkpoint 2)
3. How many golden winged angels are depicted on the western side of the Powder Gate/ Powder Tower?\_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 3)
4. The Black Madonna is depicted behind a barrier grille on the outside of the building, This is the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus; What type of headgear are they wearing and what is its color?\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ (Checkpoint 4)
5. At the very top of the Astronomical Clock, set in gold is a \_\_\_\_\_. This figure is an ancient symbol of courage and vigilance, it welcomes the day and the Sun. In stories and legends, countless ghosts and devils fly upon the first morning cockcrow. It is a often a part of astronomical clocks, church towers or interior clocks; it is always located in a high position. It has been present on the Prague Astronomical clock since 1833. (Checkpoint 5)
6. Between the apostle doorways near the top of the Astronomical Clock is a \_\_\_\_\_. This figure is designed to be God's messenger, he is in the topmost spheres with wings bearing an unreadable message on a flapping band. (Checkpoint 5)
7. Close to the stone angel, but partly hidden beneath a windowsill on the Astronomical Clock, we can see a \_\_\_\_\_, with an unreadable text, perhaps and styled as a snake. (Checkpoint 5)
8. Written on the Astronomical Clocks stationary background on the eastern (left) side of the horizon is \_\_\_\_\_ ("dawn" in Latin) and \_\_\_\_\_ ("rising" in Latin). On the western (right) side is \_\_\_\_\_ (sunset), and \_\_\_\_\_ (twilight). (Checkpoint 5)



# HISTORIC TRAIL QUIZ

9. The four figures flanking the Astronomical clock and are set in motion on the hour, and represent four things that were despised at the time of the clock's making. From left to right, the first is a figure signifies Vanity, represented by a figure admiring himself holding a \_\_\_\_\_. Next, the second figure signifies a Miser holding a \_\_\_\_\_ of gold representing greed. Across the clock stands a third figure signifying Death, a skeleton that strikes the time upon the hour holding a \_\_\_\_\_. Finally a fourth figure representing lust and earthly pleasures holding a \_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 5)
10. On the hour the Astronomical Clock hosts a presentation with internal statues depicting the Apostles. How many apostles were viewed through the doorway above the clock each hour? \_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 5)
11. To the left of the tower level is the colorful statue of Archangel Michael with his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in hands. This element of the Astronomical Clock is dated around 1787. (Checkpoint 5)
12. At the Charles IV Square the sculpture depicts him as holding out and presenting an item in his right hand. What is this item? \_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 7)
13. From 1683 to 1928, many statues of saints were carved to decorate the Charles Bridge, the most famous of which is the statue of St John of Nepomuk. Five stars around the saint's head, a surplice, crucifix and martyr's palm form the inseparable attributes. The stars supposedly appeared above the water when St. John of Nepomuk was thrown in the river. They symbolize the five letters of the Latin word "tacet", which means "silent". On the left relief is queen Sophia's confession, and the throwing of Nepomuk into the Vltava river is depicted on the right relief. In the middle, there is an inscription and a bronze emblem of the donor. The statue is 2.5 m high, weighs 20 q, and its price was 7000 golden pieces. The statue was dedicated in 1683 to commemorate the three-hundredth anniversary of St. John of Nepomuk's death, yet the donor miscalculated the event, because St. John was drowned in 1393. How many statues/saints decorate the Famous Charles Bridge? \_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 8)
14. Charles Bridge, spanning the Vltava river is the oldest bridge in the city, built between the 14th and 15th century and is supported by how many pillars? \_\_\_\_\_. This famous bridge is rich in statues and decorative lamps, and catches the eye immediately with its beautiful Gothic bridge towers on both ends. (Checkpoint 8)



# HISTORIC TRAIL QUIZ

15. The Statue of St. John Nepomuk on the Charles Bridge has many legends one such legend highlights John of Nepomuk as a priest, but also a canon at St. Vitus' cathedral in Prague. The plaque on the statue of John of Nepomuk has been polished to a shine by countless people having touched it over the centuries. Touching the falling priest on the plaque is supposed to bring good luck and ensure your return to Prague. Some meters before the actual statue (going back to Old Town Square), and on the same side, is a small golden cross marking the exact spot where the saint's body was thrown into the Vltava river. You have to look for it carefully for the cross is not sticking out – it rests on the bridge. How many golden stars are presented above this cross and around the image of St. John Nepomuk's head?\_\_\_\_\_ Touch the cross and make a wish! It is said it will come true within a year and one day! (Checkpoint 8)

16. The Charles Bridge is known to possess many secrets, and some are a bit more dubious. For example a golden sword is said to be buried in it, and in time of national strife, the spirit of some hero or other is supposed to come and claim it. But a renovation in 2008–10 found no such object, or any of the other legendary treasures, skeletons, secret rooms or magical scrolls said to be hidden within the stone pillars. But there is a golden weapon, displayed in plain view and located next to the bridge on the Malá Strana side on a pillar grasped by the statue depicting the mythical knight Bruncvik erected in 1884. It replaced a statue of Roland from 1502, which was a reminder that the Old Town side controlled the bridge and could collect the tolls and other fees. What golden weapon is Knight Bruncvik wielding?\_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 8)

17. As you explore the Charles Bridge you might notice that on the Malá Strana side of the bridge there is a smaller stream coming off the Vltava and running perpendicularly underneath part of the Charles Bridge. This is known as the Certovka, 'the Devil's Stream'. It is artificial, and was originally made to provide hydro power to the local area; in fact, you can still see one of these mechanisms in action today. The stream was once known as Rozmberk's Stream, after the Dukes of Rozmberk, who owned the land for some time. What hydro producing mechanism is being utilized within the Devil's Stream as viewed from the Charles Bridge?\_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 8)



# HISTORIC TRAIL QUIZ

18. The wardrobe of the Infant Jesus consists of approximately a hundred robes of which some are not usable. Most of the robes are gifts of gratitude. The color of the robes used represent either the specific Liturgical Season or Special Celebrations. What color is the Infant Jesus Statue at the time of your visit? \_\_\_\_\_ . (Checkpoint 9)

**White** -The color of glory, purity, and holiness – for celebrations, Christmas and Easter

**Red** -The color of blood and fire – for Holy week, Pentecost and Feasts of the Holy Cross

**Purple** - The color of penance – for Lent and Advent

**Green** - The color of life and hope – for ordinary time (the most common color)

**Pink** - The color of muted joy – can be used for the 3rd Advent Sunday and the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

**Gold** - The color of feast – can substitute other colors

**Blue** - Can be sometimes used as a celebration color, especially for the feast of Our Lady

19. The Infant Jesus of Prague is a statue which is 47 cm tall and is made of wood with a molded and colored wax surface. Canvas shows though the wax. The statue represents Jesus at the age of 4 – 5 years. It is said that the face has a unique expression which cannot be captured by any copy. Moorish features can be seen in the face and in the hair, which was originally darker. This reflects the Spanish origin of the statue. The Infant Jesus is dressed in a long under-robe beneath which we can see his bare feet. He blesses with his right hand and his left is holding the symbol of his rule over the world – an imperial orb with what other religion emblem represented on top of this sphere? \_\_\_\_\_. His palm has a slot for attaching the orb. The statue is dressed in royal robes. In the past, the robes were decorated with precious jewels that came as gifts from worshippers. The most valuable jewel (since lost) was a copy of the Order of the Golden Fleece. (Checkpoint 9)

20. The Infant Jesus statue is also adorned with a small crown which was a gift from Pope Benedict XVI, who crowed the Infant Jesus during his visit to Prague in 2009. Is this crown placed directly on the Infant Jesus Statue head or mounted separately above the head of the statue? \_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 9)

21. The rose window on the front of St. Vitus Cathedral is a beautiful work of stained glass and Gothic design. Just outside the round window in the 5 o'clock position, you can see the sculptures of the cathedrals architects. How many architects do you observe at this location? \_\_\_\_\_. (Checkpoint 10)



# HISTORIC TRAIL QUIZ

22. On the south façade of St. Vitus Cathedral, is a beautiful mosaic of the Last Judgment, in triptych form, completed in 1371 at the request of Charles IV, king of Bohemia and the Holy Roman Emperor (he is buried in the crypt beneath the cathedral). It is considered the most important exterior medieval mosaic north of the Alps. In the center is Christ surrounded by angels and beneath him are saints of the Czech lands. How many Saints are depicted in the mosaic? \_\_\_\_\_ To the left the resurrected and the saved rise from their tombs, pale-skinned and bare. To the right the damned are pushed slowly to hell. Tusked blue devils lead the way to a black exit that emits flame. The mosaic is made up of one million pieces of glass and 31 shades of colored glass, plus gilded tesserae. (Checkpoint 10)

23. St. Vitus Cathedral is one of the most famous churches in the region. The Gold Window of the St Vitus Cathedral is amazing architecture work. Apart from religious services, the coronations of Czech kings and queens also took place in here. The clock tower in this location is square in its ground plan (about 14m x 14m) and it rises up to a height of 55m. The walls of the first belfry feature ruptured cuspidate windows. The large window situated in the south facia of the cathedral is covered with an iron grate that features what golden singular capital letter? \_\_\_\_\_ This letter dates back to Emperor Rudolf II. (Checkpoint 10)

24. The Prague Castle's main entrance gate into the first Courtyard, is a part of Rococo railing, which comes from the period of the reign of the empress Maria Theresa erected in 1768. Above the main gateway, you can see a partly gold-coated wrought arch with a \_\_\_\_\_ at the top. The sides of the gate are formed by columns bearing sculptures of fighting giants and is often referred to as the "Gate of Giants". (Checkpoint 11)

25. The first Baroque structure at the Prague Castle is the Matthias Gate, named after Matthias, Holy Roman Emperor. The inscription in the gable lists his titles and the gate also features the coats of arms of lands he ruled. Giovanni Maria Filippi was probably the architect, and in the eighteenth century the court architect Nicolo Pacassi incorporated the Matthias Gate into the entrance complex of the Prague Castle. What is inscribed in the Gable and how many coat of arms are displayed under the Gable? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Checkpoint 11)

Answers on pages 27-31



# BSA REQUIREMENTS

Completion of the Vienna Historic Trail may complete the following Requirements:

## Cub Scouts:

### Tiger:

My Tiger Jungle	Req 1
Tigers in the Wild	Req 1, 2, 4
Tiger Tales	Req 7

### Wolf:

Paws on the Path	Req 1-5
Finding Your Way	Req 4

### Bear:

Fur, Feathers, and Ferns	Req 1
Paws for Action	Req 2b

### Webelos:

Webelos Walkabout	Req 1-6
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## Scouts BSA:

Tenderfoot:	Req 4d, 5a, 5b, 5c
Second Class:	Req 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 6c
First Class:	Req 4a, 4b



\*Note: Requirements for the Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Hiking, Orienteering, and American Heritage Merit Badges and the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award can be earned by completing this hike and learning about sites found on this hike.



# TRAIL QUIZ SOLUTIONS



1) Eagles



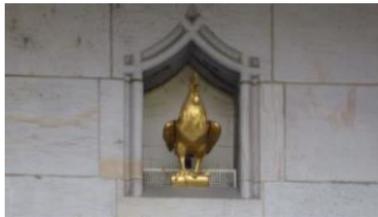
2) Violin



3) 6 Golden Winged Angels



4) Crown/ Golden



5) Golden Rooster



6) Stone Angel



7) Scroll



8) Aurora, Ortus and Occasus, Crepusculum



# TRAIL QUIZ SOLUTIONS



9) Mirror, Bag/Sack



9) Hourglass and Lute



10) 12 Apostles



11) Sword, Spear



12) Letter with Seal



13) 30 Statues



14) 16 Pillars



# TRAIL QUIZ SOLUTIONS



15) 5 Stars



16) Golden Sword



17) Mill Wheel



18) Answer varies,  
dependent on the time  
of visit.



19) Cross



20) No



# TRAIL QUIZ SOLUTIONS



21) 2 Architects [Mocker and Hilbert]



22) 6 Saints



23) "R"



# TRAIL QUIZ SOLUTIONS



24) Royal Crown



25) D.MATTHIAS.EL ROM.IMP.S.AVG. HVNG. BOH. REX. 2C FF. ANO. MDCXIV/ 9 Coat of Arms

[Breakdown is the following: 'D[ominus] Matthias El[ectus] Rom[anus] Imp[erator] S[emper] Aug[ustus] Hung[ariae] Boh[emiae] Rex etc. F[ieri] F[ecit] An[n]o MDCXIV']





# NOTES

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This Historic Trail is originally put together by Randy Taylor (Webelos 1 Den Leader) of Pack 303 of the Transatlantic Council in 2018.

Additional Historic Trails in the Transatlantic Council area can be found at <http://tac-bsa.org> or by scanning the QR Code below.

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