



# Welcome to České Budějovice

## Essential Information for Incoming International Students at the University of South Bohemia (USB)

### 1) WhatsApp Groups – Get in touch and be connected before You Arrive

To help you get in touch with other international students, buddies, ESN USB Budweis and the International Relations Office, we have created two main WhatsApp groups:

#### ◆ USB Mobility Summer Semester 2026

This is our official information channel. Here you will receive important updates, event invitations and messages from ESN USB Budweis and the university.

👉 Join here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FJr7VL9y1uVDEQ60Em5RDT>

#### ◆ Internationals @ USB

A friendly space for discussions, questions, sharing tips, meeting new people and helping each other.

👉 Join here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FJr7VL9y1uVDEQ60Em5RDT>

### 2) Orientation Week

9<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

 We start on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> September at 9:00 AM.

During Orientation Week you will:

- Complete essential administrative steps (student card, internet access, enrollment...)
- Get to know the campus, faculties and student services
- Receive an introduction to Czech language and culture
- Take part in social and leisure activities to meet other students

**Participation is highly recommended.**

👉 Please confirm your attendance by 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 here:

[Orientation Week Summer Semester 2026](#)

### 3) ESN USB Budweis & Buddy System

ESN (Erasmus Student Network) USB Budweis is a student organisation that:

- Supports international students
- Organizes trips, social events and even online activities
- Runs the **Buddy Program**



## Buddy

A buddy is a local student who will help you with your arrival, orientation, and everyday life at the University of South Bohemia – and may become your first friend here!

 Want a buddy? **(Highly recommended!)**

Register here: <http://esnusb.cz/buddy-program/>

More info:

 [www.esnusb.cz](http://www.esnusb.cz)

 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/esnusb/>

 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/esnusb/>

## 4) Prepare Your Arrival

### Health Insurance

Please make sure **your health insurance is valid for the entire duration of your stay.**

- **Students from EU countries & Turkey**
  - Bring your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC – the blue card) or TR/CZ 111 form from your home health insurance institution (Turkey).
  - After your arrival in the Czech Republic, **we highly recommend to register at a public health insurance company** in order to get a Czech public health insurance number. Detailed instructions will be given during the Orientation Week.
  - Citizens who are not required to have a medical travel insurance:  
<https://www.mvcr.cz/docDetail.aspx?docid=21674792&doctype=ART>
- **Students from outside the EU**
  - Comprehensive health insurance is required based on visa rules.
  - Follow carefully the instructions of the Consulate where you have applied for a visa.

 We strongly recommend arranging travel insurance as well.

### Internet at USB

- **Eduroam** is available on campus – you can set it up at your home university before departure. Either contact your university's IT department or follow the steps described in the attached guide.
- **Dormitories:**
  - K1, K4, K5: Wi-Fi (Eduroam)
  - K2, K3: Ethernet cable needed for internet connection



## Accommodation

Find all accommodation options here:

<https://www.icu.cz/en/study-at-usb/exchange-programmes/accommodation-in-ceske-budejovice>

## 5) Traveling to and within the Czech Republic

### Public Transport

The Czech Republic has an excellent public transport system.

Check all connections at: [www.idos.cz](http://www.idos.cz)

Useful apps:

- [Můj vlak](https://www.cd.cz/en/typy-jizdenek/jak-koupit-jizdenku/-28095/(trains)) (for trains): [https://www.cd.cz/en/typy-jizdenek/jak-koupit-jizdenku/-28095/\(trains\)](https://www.cd.cz/en/typy-jizdenek/jak-koupit-jizdenku/-28095/(trains))
- [Jízdní řády IDOS](http://www.idos.cz) (all transport types) [www.idos.cz](http://www.idos.cz)

### From Václav Havel Airport Prague to the City Centre

Prague public transport company: [www.dpp.cz/en/](http://www.dpp.cz/en/)

#### To the Main Train Station (Hlavní nádraží):

##### Airport Express (AE) from Terminal 1

- runs every 30 minutes, operates from 5:30 until 22:00
- You can buy the ticket directly from the bus driver (100 CZK).

#### To Bus Station “Na Knížecí”:

Bus n°100 to “Zličín” → change to Metro line **B** direction “Černý most” → stop: Anděl

#### To Bus Station “Florenc”:

Bus n° 119 to “Nádraží Veleslavín” → change to Metro line **A** direction “Depo Hostivař” → transfer at Můstek → change at “Můstek” to line **B** direction “Černý most” → Florenc

## From Prague to České Budějovice

### By train

The train connection to České Budějovice is quite frequent, about every hour.

It takes approx. 1h 40 min – 2h to get to České Budějovice, ticket

 [www.cd.cz](http://www.cd.cz) / “Můj vlak” app

- Buy your train ticket online: [www.cd.cz/en/](http://www.cd.cz/en/) or in the app [muj vlak](https://www.cd.cz/en/).
- You can buy the ticket at the ticket office before getting on the train

### By bus

Buses leave from bus stations “Florenc” or “Na Knížecí”.

 Tickets available online

- Student Agency <http://www.studentagency.eu/en/>



- Flixbus <http://www.flixbus.com>

### From České Budějovice Stations to the University Campus

The train and bus stations are located next to each other.

- Take bus **no. 3** from stop “*Nádraží*” (beside the Mercury shopping centre)
- Get off at “*Jihočeská univerzita*”
  - 🕒 Travel time: 10–15 min
- At night, use bus **no. 53**

### Taxi Options

- Nonstop Taxi České Budějovice: +420 723 12 04 04
- Taxi Kroupa: +420 724 70 80 90
- [Bolt](#) is also available

### List of useful websites:

 [www.esnusb.cz](http://www.esnusb.cz)

 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/esnusb/>

 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/esnusb/>

### Public Transport

[www.idos.cz](http://www.idos.cz)

[Můj vlak](#)

<http://www.studentagency.eu/en/>

<http://www.flixbus.com>

### Accommodation

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