

Charles University

Overview of Conference Premises





UNIVERSITAS CAROLINA

Charles University

Charles University was founded by Charles IV, King of Bohemia and later Holy Roman Emperor, on 7 April 1348, making it one of the oldest universities in the world. It was the first university in Central Europe. It originally had four faculties: theology, liberal arts, law and medicine. It was modelled on the universities in Bologna and Paris, and within a short time it achieved international renown. The University stands by its historical mission which was introduced in the charter at the very beginning – to advance intelligence in the country, offer the best quality education to its people without having to travel abroad, and on the contrary, achieve the status when foreign candidates wish to study at the University.

The University currently has 17 faculties (14 in Prague, 1 in Pilsen and 2 in Hradec Králové) and with its nearly 50,000 students, more than 300 accredited study programmes and 630 study branches, it is the biggest Czech university. The most honoured international charts rank the Charles University among the top 2% of universities worldwide and among the top 100 European universities. Charles University participates in a number of joint programmes with prestigious European and overseas partners and has concluded over 2,500 interinstitutional agreements (Erasmus +) and more

than 200 international partnership agreements with foreign universities from all over the world. The University is also a member of a number of international organizations, such as Coimbra Group, EAIE, EUA, Europaeum, UNICA and others.

No less important is the University's social and cultural role. The University holds exhibitions, concerts, theatre and film performances, talks and round tables to discuss current topics and is involved in public life through numerous activities.





Carolinum

Ovocný trh 3, Prague 1

The Carolinum is a national cultural monument, the seat of the Rector, and a symbol of Charles University. The building has been named after the University founder Charles IV – Collegium Caroli (Caroline College). It has belonged to the Prague University since 1383 when the founder's son King Wenceslas IV acquired one of the most impressive Old Town palaces for the college which had been built by a rich patrician, the royal mint master and banker Johlin Rotlev shortly before. In the beginning, there was a residence for 12 masters (teachers) and their servants, a chapel, an assembly hall for the entire university, as well as a treasury and university prison. A number of significant professors worked in the Carolinum, including Jan Hus, Jan Jesenius, Bernard Bolzano and Ernst Mach. On ceremonial occasions, one could meet other personalities associated with the University here – Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, Albert Einstein and Jaroslav Heyrovský.

The Carolinum is a complex of buildings at the corner of Ovocný trh and Železná street in the very centre of Prague, in close vicinity to the Old Town Square. Its present form has resulted from several major reconstructions commenced at the

end of the 14th century when the premises were modified for the university's purposes.

The most important ones include the baroque reconstruction from the period of 1715 to 1718 by František Maxmilián Kaňka and the building reconstruction led by architect Jaroslav Frágner completed in the period of 1945 to 1959. Frágner preserved all of the historical structural parts and created a monumental architectural work.

Despite its historical origin and monument preservation, the Carolinum is a living area where students and teachers meet. It is used not only for representation, but it is also a scene of the university and cultural life. The Great Hall that dominates the Carolinum holds University ceremonies and festivities, including matriculation and graduation ceremonies. As the Rector's seat, the premises often hold lectures from significant foreign personalities, meetings from academic bodies and numerous major social events.



Charles University Conference Centre

Celetná 20, Prague 1



Blue Lecture Hall

2nd floor

250 

The conference centre is situated in close vicinity of the Carolinum, connected to it by an inner yard. The main building entrance is situated at Celetná ulice 20. Technically equipped premises provide a proper background for holding a wide range of events. The lecture halls are fitted with data interconnection.



Green Lecture Hall

1st floor

40 ♀



Entrance Hall C16

Ground floor

**Cloakroom for
Lecture Halls**

Ground floor



Permanent Exhibition of Charles University History

The premises of the Carolinum gothic basement house a permanent exhibition dedicated to the history of Charles University. The exhibition broadly introduces the history of Charles University including prominent personalities in five thematic blocks – General Study of Prague, Utraquist University, Charles-Ferdinand University, Path towards Czech University, and Charles University. They also commemorate its social, cultural and political importance.

The exhibition presents a number of unique exhibits, some of which are on display for the first time. Besides many others, one can see the capitular specimen of the Foundation Charter of the Prague University issued in 1348 by Charles IV for the Archbishop of Prague and its first Chancellor Arnošt of Pardubice and the seal of the university community of Prague dating back to the 14th century, illustrating Charles IV handing over the University Foundation Charter to the protection of Saint Wenceslas, which is also the logo of the contemporary Charles University.

Another extraordinarily significant exhibit is the notarized copy of the Decree of Kutná Hora of 1409, and the metal renaissance university treasury dating back to the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries is remarkable. Other unique exhibits include the Union Decree of Emperor Ferdinand III of 1654, establishing the Charles-Ferdinand

Permanent Exhibition of Charles University History

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116 36 Prague 1
Czech Republic
<http://muzeum.cuni.cz/MUZ-26.html>



University, and the university notable's chain with a medal dating back to the 17th century. Distinguished sacral tokens, the ornamental cross of Saints Cosmas and Damian, Patron Saints of the Faculty of Medicine, a cross with remains from Saint John of Nepomuk and a chalice from a chapel situated in the Carolinum window bay date back to the first half of the 18th century.

It also displays the original mace of the Charles University rector dating back to 1883 (originally the mace of the rector of the Czech Charles-Ferdinand University), a set of authentic weapons used by the Prague university students in the battles of 1848 and the diploma and medals of the Nobel Prize winner for chemistry Jaroslav Heyrovský of 1959. An entirely unique exhibit, situated at the end of the exhibition, is the death mask of Jan Palach, a Charles University student, made by sculptor Olbram Zoubek in 1969.





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Charles University Conference Centre

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|---------------------|--------------------------|
| ① Carolinum | ⑤ Accommodation Facility |
| ② Rectorate | ⑥ Entrance Celetná 14 |
| ③ Café U Rotlevů | ⑦ Entrance Celetná 20 |
| ④ Conference Centre | ⑧ Entrance Ovocný trh 3 |