Climate and the weather conditions in the Czech Republic
Climatic zone in CR

- The Czech Republic weather and climate can be categorized as a continental and temperate one. The CR as a landlocked country located in moderate geographical latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere. It has mild climate with four seasons corresponding to the temperate climate zone.
The climate and average temperature varies among the various regions of the Czech Republic, and throughout the year, depending on the height above sea level. Generally speaking, the higher you are, average temperatures may drop more and rainfall is more likely. The average temperature in January, the coldest winter month, is -4 °C. Summer weather can be very warm with temperatures around 24 °C in July.
The difference between temperature on the highest mountain in the Czech Republic, Snezka (1,602 meters) and the lowlands of southeast Moravia can be almost 10 °C. The highest average air temperatures have been recorded in Prague. Many other factors also play a role in this – the border mountain ranges influence ground-level air flow and rainfall.
The Czech Republic lies in the temperate climate zone, which is characterized by mild and humid summers with occasional hot spells, and cold, cloudy and humid winters. The level of precipitation in the Czech Republic weather and climate is maximal in the month of July and the lowest in February.

The annual rainfall depends on the height above sea level. The rainiest area in the Czech Republic is in the highest mountain range with steep slopes facing northwest. The average total rainfall there is in excess of 1,200 millimetres. The driest region of the Czech Republic is in southeast Moravia (lowlands) and northwest Bohemia, which is shaded by the Krušné Mountains.
Four seasons

- There are four seasons in the Czech Republic. The beginning of the year in the Czech Republic is also characterized by a cold winter. After winter the spring comes, followed by a warm summer and chilly autumn. The season’s alternation effects vegetation.
Characteristics of the seasons

- Czech weather can be unpredictable in every season. December, January and February are the coldest months of the year. These months are usually accompanied by light snowing in the mountains and often in the cities. The temperature ascends during the months of March, April and May and in the spring season the rivers are full due to the water from the melted snow. June, July and August are the warmest months in the Czech Republic weather and climate but the heat is accompanied by rains and storms.

- December, January and February are the winter months. The coldest month is January when temperature falls below 0 °C. There is usually snowfall in the mountains. In the lowlands it can alternately rain and snow. Snow lasts for several months at higher altitudes above sea level and can remain for several days in the lowlands but most winters are “slushy” there.
In March, April and May temperatures increase. Snow disappears in the mid-spring, even in the highest mountains of the Czech Republic, the vegetation starts growing. Czech rivers are at their fullest in spring as a result of the melting snow. There are many Czech folk traditions connected with this period.

The hottest summer months are June, July and August. The hottest daily temperatures can be in excess of 30 °C. The hottest months are also those with the most rainfall as the hot air brings the highest level of rain to the Czech Republic.

The first of the autumn months is September, which is still hot or warm and drier than the previous month. The period of good weather coming in August is called Indian summer. The average daily temperatures fall below 10 °C around the start of October. That time the leaves on the trees begin to change colours and fall to the ground. At this time the first light frosts can occur.
Spring

- **March**
  Spring usually begins in the second half of March. The temperatures don’t usually drop below freezing, the snow starts to melt in most areas and the first flowers appear. It can still be quite chilly and temperature can drop below freezing. The highs can climb to 8-14°C.

- **April**
  April weather in the Czech Republic is unpredictable and can change from sunny to snowy in a couple of minutes as well as the temperature. Old Czech proverb says: "April is half March and half May."
May

May can be a beautiful, warm month, with temperatures at 15-25°C during the day. Flowers and trees are in bloom. The three days in the middle of May (May 12 - 14) are called Ice Men (Pankrac, Servac and Bonifac) when it can freeze in the morning. They are usually last chilly days and gardeners wait with planting till they pass.
The summer in the Czech Republic is the period from June through mid-September. Czech summers are usually mild (20-27°C) and sometimes humid, with the highest temperatures up 30-35°C (occasionally higher). The highest heat waves usually appear in July and August. Showers and thunderstorms are common in summer.
Autumn

- **September and Indian summer**
  The weather is usually pretty warm and this month you can enjoy a beautiful babí léto, which is similar to Indian summer – it comes in the second half of September. It is usually the end of warm, sunny and summery days.

- **October**
  The autumn weather comes in October and November. October is usually chilly (10-14°C with rainy and sunny days. These months are typical with their beautiful changing colours of the leaves.

- **November**
  In November the first snow usually falls and the temperatures drop below freezing. The old Czech proverb says that on November 11, (the day of St. Martin) Martin should arrive on a white horse as the first snowball is expected.
Winter

- Czech winter usually lasts from mid-November till mid-March. Winters are cold, cloudy, icy and wet with freezing temperatures. The first snow often comes in November and the lowest temperatures (-5°C to -10°C) are expected in January and February.

- The beginning of March is usually wet and chilly with temperatures below 10°C. There can still be snow in March. The temperature is from 2°C -2°C. It can snow or rain lightly. The weather can be quite crisp and snow often comes and melts before Christmas or doesn't come at all until January. December days are short and it gets dark around 4:30 p.m.
Links

- [http://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C5%99e%C5%A1n%C4%9B#mediaviewer/Soubor:Cherries_summerland.jpg](http://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C5%99e%C5%A1n%C4%9B#mediaviewer/Soubor:Cherries_summerland.jpg)
- [http://pixabay.com/cs/photos/?q=javor%20OR%20na-podzim](http://pixabay.com/cs/photos/?q=javor%20OR%20na-podzim)
- [http://pixabay.com/cs/photos/?order=best&image_type=clipart&cat=&orientation=&q=sn%C4%9Bhul%C3%A1k](http://pixabay.com/cs/photos/?order=best&image_type=clipart&cat=&orientation=&q=sn%C4%9Bhul%C3%A1k)
- [http://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%A9va_vinn%C3%A1#mediaviewer/Soubor:Close_up_grapes.jpg](http://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%A9va_vinn%C3%A1#mediaviewer/Soubor:Close_up_grapes.jpg)