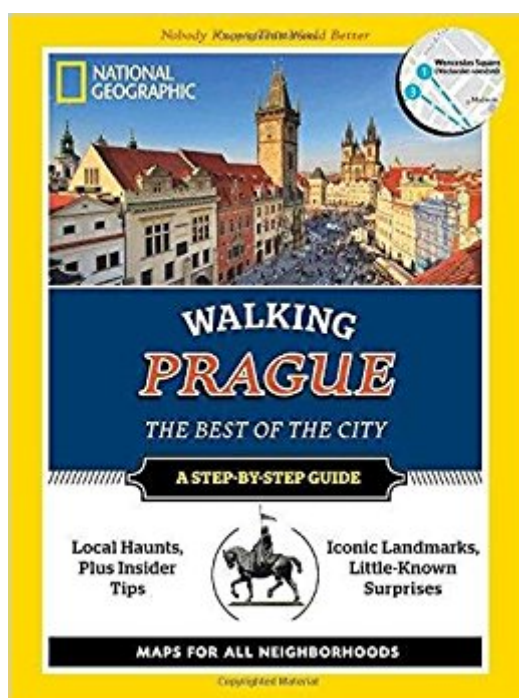


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# National Geographic Walking Prague: The Best Of The City (National Geographic Walking The Best Of The City)



## Synopsis

See the best of Prague with this streamlined walking guide, complete with 12 step-by-step itineraries and maps, to help you explore the city like a pro and navigate like a local. Created in a handy, take-along format, this guide is written by a seasoned travel writer to help conjure the spirit of the place in elegant text enhanced by National Geographic's famous eye for good pictures. Including must-do neighborhood itineraries, insider tips on how to visit recommended sights, and indispensable information for the most enjoyable adventure imaginable, *Walking Prague* is full of information about the city and its people.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Travel writer, educator, and documentarian WILL TIZARD has called Prague home for two decades. Aside from editing and writing more than a dozen guides to the Golden City in print and online, he covers the film sector in Eastern Europe for *Variety* and spent a decade on the crime and government beats in California as a journalist before relocating to Bohemia to seek out subjects and stories worthy of classic spy movies.

There are a few cities in Europe that are true walking cities because they have one core area that is walkable from a central point. Prague is one and Berlin is another. This isn't to say there aren't other parts of the city worth seeing, but both Prague and Berlin have a central core, which are filled with historic sites that the traveler can see without resorting to public transportation to get from point to

point. (With Prague, it's the Old Town area and with Berlin, it's Mitte in the old East). With that in mind, I bought "Walking Prague: The Best of the City", by National Geographic. I've been to Prague many times, (but not since buying this book earlier this week!), and I think it's a very good guide to those walkable parts that a visitor should see in two or three day visits to the city. It gives separate sections to Old Town (Stare Mesto) the Castle (Hradcany), Josefov, as well as other important areas. Most are within walking distance of your hotel if you stay in Stare Mesto; not if you stay on the outskirts of the city. The hills outside Prague are a good vantage point to "see" the city - and a lot of tours stay in hotels out there because of the difficulty of getting tour buses in the narrow streets of Prague - but, if you are on your own, and going to pick a hotel, look at the ones in the Stare Mesto area first. They tend to be a bit more expensive than outer-lying hotels - location, location, LOCATION - but the higher prices are worth it for ease of walking the city from your hotel. Anyway, back to the book. It's a smallish book and filled with maps. It does give some restaurants and shops but is mostly a guide to the sights you've come to Prague to see. I like it and will use it on my next trip to Prague.

This book has walking routes with descriptions of landmarks along the way.

Best walking guide.

Excited about a new book that provided walking tours, I purchased this in advance of our visit to Prague but as we prepare to leave the city I am disappointed about the book. On the surface it looks good but in practice it falls short. Tours of neighborhoods are duplicative, lists of restaurants and beer spots are provided but not mapped and it is impossible to find their addresses on the tiny maps, especially since street names are unusual to the English reader. Colored tabs are provided to define the pages allocated to different neighborhoods but the tab for Holesovice expands to include some other sections, beer culture and small modern art galleries, that are not located in that neighborhood. Perhaps a second edition will correct these deficits.

PROMPT MAILING, FAIR PRICE

I used the walking guide to London two years ago and it was very useful so I am sure this will be good too and the size is small enough to fit into a handbag.

I was very disappointed in this book. Prague is a stunningly beautiful city and is ideal for walking. But if you relied on this book you'd probably be lost and hungry by the end of the day. If it was your only guidebook you'd be lost, hungry, and wondering what you had missed. The problems? Most importantly a walking tour book should show you the buildings on the street as well as the buildings it's suggesting you visit. For over 3/4 of the highlights, there is not picture of the outside. I've been to Prague many buildings have plain exteriors that do nothing to hint at the wonders inside. Other streets are lovely, worthy of being photographed. For a guide from a company renowned for its photography I'm left wondering at this disconnect. Second, the pictures in the book are often small and not terribly enticing. Yes, it's a pocket guide, but still I would have liked to see the pictures bigger. Third, the street maps and directions aren't easy to understand or read. Prague being a Medieval city has a difficult street plan. The maps are small enough and printed in grey on white so they are not easy to read. If I remember correctly street names aren't always easy to find. If the directions for the walking tour say only "continue to X Street" you'll be lost in no time. Couldn't the author, a resident of Prague do better? Most of the tours are designed to cover a day, but relatively few restaurants or cafes are mentioned anywhere. Some tours have none mentioned at all. I don't have problems just going into a random restaurant, but many tourists do. Without more suggestions readers will feel lost here as well. All of these things make the book a less than useful guide but I was also distressed by the author's inaccurate facts about history. I found many incorrect statements and other places where he did not include enough of the story to be helpful. Prague is a city that, more than most, glories in its rich history and embraces it. It's part of what makes the place so fun to visit. But I really didn't feel this come through in the book. Because it is lacking on so many levels, I would suggest you only buy it as an additional guidebook to this wonderful city.

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