

Čeština na vlnách

Finální verze 1. příspěvku

Are we going to Wenceslas Square or to "Václavák" ?

Hello,

This is your first time in the Czech Republic and would you like to see all the famous sights? You would like to see, for example, Wenceslas Square, Prague Castle, Old Town Square and other beautiful places, but your Czech friends still refer you to "Václavák" or the "Staromák"? Why do they offer you places you don't ask them at all? If you are one of the tourists who wants to go not to "Václavák", but to Wenceslas Square, this text is meant for you. If you will allow me, in the following lines I will become your guide in the world of Czech slang names of monuments. Let's do this.

We'll start with something really simple and that's the already mentioned Wenceslas Square. For example, if you ask your friends: "Which way do you get to Wenceslas Square" and the answer will be something along the lines of "Yeah, so you have to go to "Václavák"....." so don't be mad at your friend at all. It is really not another Czech monument, only the slang name "Václavák" is more comfortable than Wenceslas Square. The Czechs are a nation that tries to shorten as much as it can in speech, which we will show in other examples.

Rather like Wenceslas Square, there is an Old Town Square. For this square, we have the colloquial designation "Staromák." Another widely used slang term for one of the most important places is "Masaryčka." If you say this name to a native prahran, he will automatically know that you are going to The Czech Railway Station. According to this name, a restaurant bearing the slang name "Masaryčka" was created in The Czech Republic's railway station. Of course, if you were in Moray, the designation "Masaryčka" is carried by the Masaryk University, which is based in Brno. So watch it. She's not "Masaryčka," like "Masaryčka."

How about "Carl"? Does that ring a bell? If so, you're becoming more confident in Czech slang. "Karlák" is the name for Charles Square. Very fortunate that the Czechs at least have no abbreviation for Charles Bridge, because that would create a lot of chaos, but we will make a bit of chaos with the name Karl, because we have already explained "Karlák" to each other, but what about such "Karlovka"? I'm sure you're thinking "That's pretty much the same Thing as Karlák and Karlovka. It's just going to be some other shape. "And that's the big mistake, because "Karlovka" has nothing to do with "Karlák" at all. It is an abbreviation of the name Charles University.

The last place I would like to visit with you is still located in the old Prague, specifically not far from the "Old Man". This is the Municipal House, in which a lot of cultural events take place. As I wrote at the beginning, the Czechs are

trying to shorten absolutely everything, so it is no surprise that the Municipal House has become simply a "Obecňák"
I hope that you will already have a better understanding of Czech slang than the praguers themselves...that is, at least in the basic ones.