

ISB PTA
International School of Brno
Parent Teacher Association

Welcome Pack version 1
May 2011

This purpose of this information pack is to provide useful information for families arriving or living in Brno.



This is a living document which is subject to change and update. Please send any comments or additions to pta@isob.cz

Welcome Pack Version1.doc

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1 IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

112 - Emergency Central Number

158 - Police

156 - City Police

155 - Ambulance

150 - Fire Department

Tourist information: Radnická 8, 602 00 Brno

2 LIVING IN BRNO

2.1 VISA

Please check your passport & Visa requirements with your own country's embassy before arriving in the Czech Republic.

2.2 HEALTH

The medical system in Czech republic works as following:

The private medical centers:

- It is necessary to schedule the appointment first by phone with the required doctor.
- Regarding the payments, in case the person is not the member of the health care center, they pay directly on the place for the medical examination. The members pay the annual fee, and do not need to pay for each medical examination.
- Advantages: no waiting, English speaking doctors, better communication, professional behavior.
- Disadvantages: need to pay, the health insurance in home country doesn't need to accept the medical help provided by the private center.

Public hospital:

- Just to come, ask for the required doctor, and wait in line for the place for the medical examination.
- Advantages: the general European health insurance card is sufficient. Client pays on the spot, this will be prepaid by the health insurance company.
- Disadvantages: waiting a long time for the medical examination, doctors don't necessarily speak English, variable quality of service

Emergency hospital:

- In case of critical situations, it is necessary to call 112, or to get directly to the emergency hospital - (<http://www.unbr.cz/article.asp?nArticleID=34&nDepartmentID=59&nLanguageID=2>)

Doctors in Brno:

Dr Dufka Lisen tel: 605 152 490	French speaker
MUDr. Radovan Sedlinsky (man) Cernopolni 20, 613 00 Brno Tel: 545 571 963 Mobil: 607 702 978 Doctor	English Speaking Children's

MUDr. Vlasta Placha (woman) moje@ambulance (www.mojeambulance.cz) Londynsky na, 6 Brno, Brno Business Park Tel: 543 213 033	English Speaking Adult Doctor
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2.3 HOUSE UTILITIES

If you are renting a house where all the utilities are included (electricity, gas, water ...) then this will not concern you. However if they are not included in your house rental, or you have bought a property, you will need to inform the utilities service providers to bill you.



ELECTRICITY The local electricity company is called E.ON Energie.

www.eon.cz and select English

To register you will need proof of residency at the address (for example your rental contract) & proof that the previous payee (that is, the previous tenants or the owners of the property) agree that you will now be in charge of paying the electricity bills. This is best done in person at a local E.ON office but be warned – their employees will not speak English and the service is poor (expect a long wait). Most bills are paid by a standing charge (a fixed monthly amount) by bank transfer. Any under/over-payment is reconciled at the end of the year.

GAS The local domestic gas company is called RWE.



www.rwe.cz and select English

The comments are similar as for the Electricity firm (but their service is a little better!)



House Telephone, Internet, TV

www.O2.cz and select English

Household fixed phone lines can be installed by the company O2 Telefonica, and you can “package” them with TV and internet access at the same time. Check the coverage and speed of your internet access, maybe with your house owner (not all internet providers give the same service at all addresses).



Or Vodafone

www.vodafone.cz/index_en.htm

2.4 MOBILE PHONE

There are three main mobile phone providers: Telefonica O2, Vodaphone and T-mobile.

Pay-As-You-Go phones are available from shops from these brands in most main shopping centres and the town centre – see their internet pages for information in English.

2.5 PETS

Please note that dog owners who are permanent residents in CZ need to pay a municipal Dog Tax.

2.6 CAR

Please note that cars must be insured.

2.6.1 Transfer of car to the Czech Republic

To register the car in Czech Republic the residence permit is needed, without it, it is not possible to register the car and to get the Czech car plates. After getting the residence permit I will recommend to ask the company or a car dealer who will proceed all the process of car registration. It will be more convenience, easier and mostly quicker option. They take the car, go everywhere needed and bring the car back.

Please see below documents which are required for the registration:

- Firstly you will need to de-register your car in the country you bought it or having an insurance,
- Copy of your residence registration and passport,
- Technical card of the car from the country of origin (small + big log book),
- Proof of a car insurance paid in the Czech Republic.

The cost for the car registration is from 7.000 to 15.000 Czech crowns, based on the type of the car.

Please see below 2 contacts, both men speaks English and they have long experience with car registration for Czech Republic:

Mr. Zak - +420 774 750 005

Mr. Zoch +420 777 317 306

2.6.2 Motorway vignette

www.ceskedalnice.cz/

On motorways which are not exempt, you must purchase a Motorway Tax "Vignette" (Car Sticker). Note that the motorways around the Brno city area are mostly exempt (no sticker required) – see motorway road signs.

Where to buy - post office, petrol station, motorway border entry into CZ.

1 200,- per calendar year

350,- per month

250,- 10 days

2.6.3 Snow tyres

The use of winter tyres is mandatory on selected highland roads (blue sign white snowflake) between 1 November and 30 April.



2.6.4 Children´s Car Seats

Obligatory for children under 150 cm in height or 36 kg weight.

2.6.5 Car Lights on during whole year

www.ministerstvodopravy.cz/ (silniční doprava)

Use "Daily Lighting" function on cars or remember to switch on your headlights everytime you drive!

2.7 PUBLIC TRANSPORT

2.7.1 Brno public transportation / Dopravní podnik města Brna (DPMB)

<http://www.dpmb.cz/e41.asp>

The website is partly in English. You can find timetables and interactive map.

Tickets are sold in:

- Ticket vending machines at important stops,
- DPMB outlets,
- Tobacconists "Tabak",
- Post offices,
- Railway stations,
- Bus drivers (limited range and higher price).

To purchase a pass at DPMB outlets, you will need a passport and photo.

Travel free of charge for young children:

Children under 6 (i.e. up to the day preceding their 6th birthday): only one child under 6 may travel free of charge for each accompanying adult.

One person accompanying a child under 3 (i.e. up to the day preceding its 3rd birthday) may travel free of charge. The child's age is proven by an IDS JMK pass with a free coupon issued by DPMB.

Single Tickets

NO. OF ZONES	VALIDITY	BASE	REDUCED
2 zones	10 min. non-changing	14 CZ	7 CZ
2 zones	15 min. 45 min outside zone 100 and 101	18 CZ	9 CZ
2 zones	60 min.	22 CZ (30 from driver)	11 CZ (20 from driver)
3 zones	90 min.	24 CZ	12 CZ
universal ticket	as marked	140 CZ	70 CZ

For more information about the area zone, please have a look on the website map.

Non-transferable season tickets for - one month

FOR ZONES	BASE	PENSIONERS	STUDENTS	CHILDREN
100 + 101	530	330	265	265
100 + 101 + 1 zone	770	570	445	355
100 + 101 + 2 zones	1020	820	625	445
100 + 101 + 3 zones	1270	1070	815	535

2.7.2 Student Agency

www.studentagency.eu

Travel by coach from Brno to Prague, Vienna, and more.

2.7.3 Eurolines

www.eurolines.cz

Travel by coach from Brno to Prague, Vienna, and more.

2.8 LEARN THE CZECH LANGUAGE

Free language lessons in:

- South Moravian Regional Center for Integration of Foreigners www.cizincijmk.cz,
- SOZE association www.soze.cz/hezkycesky/view.php?cisloclanku=2009042901.

Teachers:

Kristyna Hervertová (can speak English)

Tel.: +420 602 852 885

e-mail: kristy.h@quick.cz

Czeck studies:

Department of Czech for Foreigners at Masaryk University: www.phil.muni.cz/kabcest/

2.9 BANK

When you open an account, you will need your house rental contract and a Czech phone number.

You can buy a phone card in one of the many phone company office in the center of Brno. You buy new phone credits through the website of your bank.

The KB is the Czech brand of the “Société Générale” and has a dedicated contact for non-Czech residents in CZ. www.kb.cz

There is also the Unicreditbank. www.unicreditbank.cz

The top 10 banks are compared here <http://www.expats.cz/prague/article/money/bank-comparisons/>

3 ENTERTAINMENT

3.1 THEATRES "Divadlo"

Many theatre groups are performing in Brno. The main are presented below.

3.1.1 Narodni Divadlo Brno

www.ndbrno.cz

The Narodni Divadlo Brno (NDB) offers Theatre, Ballet, Opera, Childrens performances. They operate from September to June included.

There are three theatre buildings: Janacek theatre, Mahen theatre and Reduta theatre.

On-line reservation is available from the NDB website. Or you can directly buy the tickets in a booking office. Addresses are available on the on-line reservation website.

It's possible to buy tickets at the ticket office of the Student Agency, 17 Svobody square.

3.1.2 Radost divadlo

www.divadlo-radost.cz

Radost Divadlo is a famous puppet's theatre for children. The performances include songs, dance, theatre and of course puppets for a Kindergarten to Primary School public.

Each morning during the academic year they play for schools. If there are any free-seats, you can buy tickets during the morning and attend the performance.

In other way you can buy tickets for the weekend performances. They sold from the 15th the previous month, 32 Bratislavská Street.

The program is in the Czech language.

3.2 MUSIC

www.filharmonie-brno.cz/en/

The Philharmonic Orchestra of Brno plays concert from September to the end of June.

And the first Saturday of each month, there is a children's show.

The Spilberg Festival takes place in August at the Spilberg Castle in the centre of Brno.

Adress: Komenského náměstí 534/8

3.3 CINEMA

The major cinema chain is called Palace cinemas, with Brno sites in the town centre (Velký Špalíček) and in the Olympia Shopping Centre south of the city (note always easy to car park at Olympia !). See the all Czech Republic web sites via www.palacecinemas.cz – click on English for translation and make sure you select the correct site (Olympia or Velký Špalíček) and the correct tab for the day you want to see. It is worth reserving tickets on-line for very popular films, for example Harry Potter. Many US and English films are in English with Czech sub-titles. Children's films are often dubbed into

Czech so check the individual film details carefully. Most films are shown in the afternoon or evening; at Olympia you can generally see films from 10am or later at night.

There are also some Art cinemas in town.

3.4 MUSEUM

<p>The Moravian Museum</p> <p>www.mzm.cz</p>	<p>A department is allocated to the children with permanent and occasional events. The Moravian Museum include the Anthropologic Museum.</p> <p>More information on www.mzm.cz / MZM / programme / detske_muzeum_program.html</p>
<p>The Moravska Galery</p> <p>http://www.moravska-galerie.cz</p>	<p>Each week, children art classes take place in the gallery. More information on the website.</p>
<p>Spilberk Castle</p> <p>www.spilberk.cz</p>	
<p>Technical Museum</p> <p>www.technicalmuseum.cz</p>	
<p>Vyskov Air Museum</p> <p>Sochorova street</p>	<p>Old army airplanes, helicopters and tank.</p> <p>Fun for boys - small and big!</p>

3.5 ATTRACTIONS

3.5.1 Attractions in Brno

<p>Bongo</p> <p>www.bongobrno.cz</p>	<p>Huge inside playground for kids</p>
<p>Jungle park</p> <p>www.junglepark.cz</p>	<p>Outside games</p>
<p>Zoo</p> <p>www.zoobrno.cz</p> <p>www.zoo-olomouc.cz</p> <p>www.zoopraha.cz</p> <p>www.zoolesna.cz/en/</p>	<p>Brno Zoo is close and you can go by tram or park your car further. Inside you will go up a little hill, so it's nice to take the little train. You can ask the ticket when you buy the entrance tickets.</p> <p>During the low season, the train is available only during the week-end.</p> <p>The Vienna zoo is very nice and big. Kids will enjoy it.</p>

www.zoovienna.at/en/	
Bystrc lake tours www.dpmb.cz	Scenic lake in the north of Brno with summer lake tours by boat.
Aquapark www.aquapark-kohoutovice.cz	Swimming Pool
Planetarium Copernic Nicolas www.hvezdarna.cz	Planetarium with film shows within the dome.
Aquarium Malawi www.akvariummalawi.cz	
BVV Exhibition & Conference Centre www.bvv.cz	This is a big Trade Fairs and exhibitions Center in Brno. There is on the website the planning of the next exhibitions. It could be a Christmas market, a children toys sale, dogs competition, motor show.

3.5.2 Attractions outside Brno

Castles Bouzov www.hrad-bouzov.cz Helfštýn www.helfstyn.cz Veverí www.veveri.cz Karlštejn www.hradkarlstejn.cz Pernštejn www.npu.cz	
Straznice open-air museum www.nulk.cz	Discover traditional Czech houses in an open air museum.
Open-air museum www.vmp.cz	(130 km northeast of brno)
Unesco monuments www.unesco-czech.cz	Vila Tugendhat, town Telč..... The most beautiful is Lednice Area.
DinoPark www.dinopark.cz	The entrance is by the Vyskov zoo. You take a small train to go the dinopark. It looks like Jurassic Park and you can walk through the "Dinosaur". There is also a small city farm to visit too.
Caves www.cavemk.cz	Go underground and visit Moravian caves and finish with a boat trip on the underground river. Sometimes it's crowded so try to

	<p>buy the entrances tickets for earlier in the day.</p> <p>Remember your coat and hat - it's very cold inside.</p>
<p>Moravská gobelínová manufaktura</p> <p>www.gobelin.cz</p>	
<p>Hotels in Beskydy</p> <p>www.valachy.cz</p>	
<p>Bukovansky Mill</p> <p>www.bukovansky-mlyn.cz/en/</p>	
<p>Western Park Boskovice and Siklův Mlýn</p> <p>www.westernove-mestecko.cz</p> <p>www.western.cz</p>	<p>Western cowboy village with many activities and shows for kids.</p>
<p>Danzinger blue print workshop</p> <p>www.modrotisk-danzinger.cz</p>	<p>You can see a presentation of the textile print technique and buy blue print textile.</p>

3.6 FREE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

More walking path on this website <http://turistaky.jaromirklein.net/> and www.kyjevsko.cz/obec/skoronice/popis

3.6.1 Park Olympia

www.jdemedoparku.cz/atrakce.php

Behind the Olympia Shopping complex you can find an activity area for kids. This park is open from April to October. There is a climbing wall, a small train, roller-skating circuit and a lot of playground activities for smaller and bigger children.

3.6.2 Boars area - Zebetinska street in Kohoutovice

Have a walk in the forest and see the wild boars in their enclosure.

3.6.3 Brno Lake at Bystrc

A parking is located under the Veveri Castle. And you can join a bike path along the lake and through the forest or take a boat to discover the lake shore (boat information on www.dpmb.cz/e41.asp).

3.6.4 Luzanky Park

There is a big playground and a bike circuit for kids in the middle of this large park.

3.6.5 Hot-Air Balloons

In Summer, perhaps you will notice some hot air balloons flying overhead. The preparations start at around 5 o'clock the afternoon on Kravy Hora area in fine weather.

3.6.6 Botanical Gardens

Botanical Gardens is open to the public

In April - September, Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pm, Weekends 9 am - 4 pm, Greenhouses 9 am - 4 pm.

In October - March it is open 9 am - 3 pm, Greenhouses 9 am - 3 pm.

On public holidays throughout the year the Botanical Garden is closed.

www.sci.muni.cz/bot_zahr/index_en.cz.htm

3.6.7 Mariánské údolí (3 small lakes close to ISB)

Nice walk around a Lakes. The path is nice for walking and biking with smaller and bigger kids. It's only 10 mns from the school in the Lisen area.

3.6.8 Biking and walking from Anthropologic Museum

You can park the car near the Anthropologic museum and follow the river bike-path.

3.6.9 Austerlitz

The Czech name is Slavkov. The place is 30 mns from Brno. All the year you can eat in the "Stara posta" where Napoleon is said to have slept.

Address:

Stará Pošta 109, Kovalovice

Rousínov, Česká republika

www.staraposta.cz

You can visit the castle of the town or see the panorama from the place that witnessed the epic battle.

Památník Mohyla míru,

664 58 Prace u Brna

tel./fax:+420 544 244 724

<http://mohylamiru.muzeumbrnenska.cz>

3.7 SPORT ACTIVITIES

3.7.1 Swimming Pool

At the entrance you will take off your shoes. The cloakrooms are usually common for men and women. But you have shower for men (MUZI) and for women (ZENI).

Kravy Hora swimming pool

www.kravihora-brno.cz

Located near Namesti Miru, this is a modern swimming pool with 3 pools and sauna. Look on the website the timetable, because there are school and private lessons. During this time you can

	not access to the pool.
Kurim www.wellnesskurim.cz	The Aqua park of Kurim is near Brno. There is a toboggan slide.
Kohoutovice www.aquapark-kohoutovice.cz	The Aqua park is in the edge of Brno. There is also toboggan and paddle pool for small one.
Laa an Der Thaya www.therme-laa.at	This thermal area is located at the Austria border. Very nice place for all the family.
Brno Riviera www.rivec.cz	Open air swimming pool during the summer.

3.7.2 Ice Skating

Kravy Hora swimming pool	During the winter season.
Olympia Commercial center	During the winter season, a temporary skating rink is constructed behind the shopping complex. It is possible to borrow ice skating shoes.
Luzanki www.bruslenizaluzankami.cz	During the winter season.
Ice Hokey stadium www.hokejovahala-brno.cz/index.php	Indoor Ice Skating. Public skating times updated every week.

3.7.3 Skiing

Velké Karlovice www.valachy.cz	Ski station and summer holidays.
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3.8 KIDS ACTIVITIES

The ISB School organises many after school activities. You can find additional activities outside the school – some suggestions follow:

Dance www.filianek.cz	Wide choice : Ballet, Hip hop, Gym... The website is in Czech. But the teacher speaks Spanish and French very well and a little bit of English.
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<p>Tennis</p> <p>www.centrumviktorija.cz</p>	<p>The teacher speaks English.</p> <p>Sport centrum Viktoria Vodarska 2, Brno Komarov Contact Dana Hankova 603980979</p>
<p>Music</p> <p>www.zus-brno.cz/symfonak.phtml</p>	<p>This Music School is just in front of the ISB (round metal building).</p> <p>The website is in Czech but teachers can speak English.</p>
<p>Lužánky - afterschool activities</p> <p>www.luzanky.cz</p>	<p>For kids and adults.</p>

3.9 MUMMIES ACTIVITIES

<p>Art Glass and mozaic</p> <p>www.kalod.com</p> <p>www.tgk-cz.cz</p> <p>www.barevne-sklo.cz</p>	
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3.10 SHOPPING AREAS

<p>Ikea</p>	<p>At Avion shopping park.</p>
<p>Sconto nabytek</p>	<p>At Olympia.</p>
<p>Kika</p>	<p>At Olympia.</p>
<p>SOHO (Natuzzi, Casamia, Bo concept)</p> <p>www.soho-ic.cz</p>	<p>Near Olympia at Svratecka 989 66442 Modrice (Brno).</p>
<p>Vankovka Shopping Mall</p>	<p>Near the town centre by the train station – free parking for the first hour.</p>
<p>Dobrovsky book shop</p> <p>Joštova 137/6</p> <p>602 00 Brno-Město</p> <p>BARVIČ A NOVOTNÝ, spol. s r.o.</p>	<p>Most of the book shops with English books are in the centre of Brno.</p> <p>You can also order on internet. Some web sites are worldwide free delivery.</p> <p>www.bookdepository.co.uk</p>

<p>Česká 167/13 602 00 Brno-Město</p>	
<p>Designer Outlet Straße 1 7111 Parndorf Austria Telefon: +43 (0) 2166 3614 www.designeroutletparndorf.at</p>	<p>Big outlet centre with international designer labels present in 150 shops.</p>

3.11 RESTAURANTS

<p>Arca di Adria: Italian www.arca-brno.cz</p>	<p>Good food (excellent pizza crust!), nice atmosphere, moderately priced Reservations not needed English spoken, English language menu</p>
<p>Borgo Agnese: Czech restaurant Kopecna 43 515 537 500</p>	
<p>Brabanders: French style www.brabander.cz/www/cs</p>	<p>Good food, nice atmosphere, expensive. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Restaurance Druhydech: Czech food with emphasis on local products www.druhydech.cz Mácova 25 Brno – Ivanovice Tel: 774 482659</p>	<p>Good food, nice atmosphere, moderately priced. Reservations not needed. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Forty's Pizza: Pizza delivery www.fortys.eu/</p>	
<p>Giraffy: Fresh food home delivery</p>	

<p>http://www.giraffy.cz/clanky/english</p>	
<p>Hansen: High end Czech www.hansen-restaurant.cz/en</p>	<p>Good food, lovely atmosphere, expensive. Reservations recommended, reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Havana: Cuban www.havana-restaurant.cz</p>	<p>Good food, fun atmosphere, great for children, moderately priced. Reservations recommended, reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Hacienda Mexicana: Mexican www.mexicana.cz Dobrovskeho 29 541 241 685</p>	<p>Mexican restaurant</p>
<p>Koshi: Sushi www.koishi.cz</p>	<p>Excellent sushi, expensive, sushi not available on Sunday. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Klub Cestovatelů: Lebanese www.hedvabnastezka.cz/brno</p>	<p>Good food, casual atmosphere, moderately priced. Reservations not needed. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>La Bouchee: French restaurant www.labouchee.cz Udolni 33 542 212 560</p>	<p>Good french food. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Noem Arch: High end Czech www.noemarch.cz/cz/</p>	<p>Good food, nice atmosphere, expensive. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.</p>
<p>Pegas http://brno restaurace pivnice.hotelpegas.cz/english-about-alehouse/</p>	
<p>Satyam: Indian www.satyam.cz</p>	<p>Good food, nice atmosphere, moderately priced.</p>

	Reservations recommended, reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.
Pontos: Greek www.reckarestauracepontos.cz Kuzkouskeho 22 543 211 298	Good food, not fancy atmosphere, moderately priced. Reservations not needed. English spoken, English (and German) language menu.
Rebio: Vegetarian www.rebio.cz	No reservations necessary.
Taj: Indian www.tajbrno.cz	Good food, nice atmosphere, moderately priced. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.
U Kastelana www.ukastelana.cz	Good food, nice atmosphere, expensive. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.
U Staryho Billa: "Texas" steak restaurant www.bill.cz/cz/	Excellent steaks, moderately priced. Reservations recommended: reserve on line. English spoken, English language menu.
Zelena Kocka: Czech www.zelenakocka.cz	Excellent food, low key atmosphere, moderately priced. Reservations recommended, not available on line. English spoken, English language menu.
Delivery service www.delivery.cz	

3.12 MAIN EVENTS

May/June	<p>May:</p> <p>Museum night. www.brnenskamuzejninoc.cz</p> <p>End of May and beginning of June:</p> <p>Mozartovy deti: Two weeks of music around the town for the day of the children</p>
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	<p>“dětí”.</p> <p>Ignis Brunensis Fireworks in Spilberg castle and Veveri lake. www.bmue.cz</p> <p>June:</p> <p>Night of the Masks – procession with decorated floats and costumed theatre players and a competition for the best entrants.</p> <p>www.divadelnisvet.cz</p>
September	<p>Beginning of September:</p> <p>Vine Harvest Festival in Mikulov. The city centre sees a varied programme of music, singing, dance and comedies. The guests include popular singers and bands, folklore ensembles, wind orchestras, brass bands and others.</p> <p>www.mikulov.cz/culture-sport-leisure-time/</p>
November	<p>November 27 to 29: Austerlitz (Slavkov in Czech): A historical re-enactment of the famous battle</p>

4 USEFUL WEBSITES

www.easyexpat.com/en/prague/departure/before-you-leave.htm

<http://survival.rrajm.cz>

www.expats.cz

www.brno.cz

www.ticbrno.cz

www.kamvbrne.cz

www.kultura-brno.cz

www.czechtourism.com

www.namaterskevbrne.cz