

Guide to Marriage in the Czech Republic

Note: This information is a guide. Contact the marriage-performing institution for further information.

Civil Marriage

Citizens of the Czech Republic, who have their permanent residency in the Czech Republic, submit to the marriage-performing institution the following documents:

- birth certificate;
- citizenship document;
- extract from the Citizens' Information System about marital status and permanent residence.

Note: Citizenship confirmation and extract are not needed, if the marriage-performing institution can verify the data itself, or if personal identification document ("občanský průkaz") is presented.

Foreign nationals submit to the marriage-performing institution the following documents:

- birth certificate (which includes first name, last name, date of birth, and data about parents);
- citizenship document;
- confirmation of marital status and permanent residence (issued by the country of citizenship);
- document attesting legal eligibility to enter into marriage (may not be older than six months);
- personal ID (for example passport);

- divorced persons will present divorce court decision, widowed persons will present death certificate of the formal spouse.

- document issued by the <u>Foreigners' Police of the Czech Republic</u> certifying that the stay in the Czech Republic is legal (may not be older than seven days; in Prague, the issuing office is located on Koněvova Street, hours for public Mo and Wed 7.30-17 and Tue and Th 7-14; you will be asked to present passport, registration slip, and proof of health insurance);

The marriage performing institution will provide information about fees.

All public documents issued outside of the Czech Republic must be legalized, as applicable. Public documents must be equipped with a certificate of authenticity of signature - the so-called Apostille, issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or a Magistrates Court.

The official language for communication is Czech. Documents must be translated by a Czech court translator. Czech court translator will be present during the ceremony. Click here for the list of <u>Czech court translators</u>.



In the case of a civil marriage at Berštejn Castle, most documents must be submitted to the <u>Dubá City Registry</u> at the latest 1 month before the wedding, but ideally 2 months (for peace of mind). The office is located on Masarykovo náměstí 138 (Square), Dubá, hours for public Mo and Wed 8-11 and 12-16.30 and Tue and Th 8-11 and 12-15; Fr 8-11 and 12-14.30; Email: <u>matrika@mestoduba.cz;</u> Tel. +420 487 870 201.

The wedding ceremony on the day of the wedding is performed by the mayor of the city of Dubá or the deputy mayor, with the participation of the registrar. The participation of an official interpreter is required.

Church Wedding

The documents are usually identical. The process is different. Please contact your church for more information.

Symbolic Wedding

The couple will conclude official documents and an official marriage in their country of origin before the wedding at Berštejn Castle. Simply and quickly. There is no need to invest time and money in document translations and fees. In such a case, the wedding at Berštejn Castle is symbolic and has no official validity. Even so, it is romantic, beautiful and full of emotions for the newlyweds, their parents, their families and their guests.

The lady of the castle is preparing a wedding speech just for you. The speech contains funny passages as well as a romantic wedding vow.