



Heritage Management Plan

The Royal Way – Prague, Czech Republic

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
SITE DESCRIPTION	3
LOCATION	3
HISTORY	3
KEY FEATURES	4
OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT	4
ACCESS AND ACCESSIBILITY	4
HERITAGE VALUE AND STAKEHOLDERS	5
MARKET REVIEW	5
POSITION WITHIN TOURISM PRODUCT	5
TARGET MARKETS	6
TOURISM IMPACTS	6
LACK OF DETAILED MANAGEMENT PLAN	6
AUTHENTICITY & COMMODIFICATION	6
MANAGING A LIVING CITY	7
PHYSICAL CONSERVATION	8
COMPARATOR REVIEW	8
SUGGESTED INTERVENTIONS	8
APPENDIX	11
FIGURE 1 – HISTORIC CENTRE OF PRAGUE - MAP OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY	11
FIGURE 2 – MAP OF THE ROYAL WAY	12
FIGURE 3 – SOUVENIR SHOPS ON THE ROYAL WAY IN PRAGUE IN 2016	13
FIGURE 4 – MARKET DATA	13
FIGURE 5 - ORBAŞLI (2008) MATRIX	14
WORKS CITED	16

Introduction

Heritage is a process which uses the past for present purposes by packaging and commodifying aspects of a culture (Schouten, 1995; Hurley, 2010). In a tourism context, heritage is cherished for the economic value and potential commercial opportunities of which can easily be misused unless carefully managed (Graham et al, 2000). Thus, urban centres like Prague, Czech Republic, must engage in extensive value-based assessments with stakeholders when making heritage management decisions and developing tourism strategies (UNESCO, 2013).

This report will address tourism's impacts to Prague's Royal Way, a 2.5km long route within the UNESCO heritage zone which links many of the capital city's most iconic heritage sights and is thus one of the most visited areas of the city (Kadlecová, 2010). It is estimated that over 20 million visitors walk the Royal Way annually, which has led to issues in physical conservation of the sights, as well as issues in the commodification and authenticity of Czech culture and heritage presented along the Royal Way (Vaníček, 2019a). This is further impeded due to the fact that Prague is a *living city*, meaning a management plan must address current community concerns as is detailed in the suggestions which conclude this report.

Site Description

Location

Known by locals as *Královská cesta*, the Royal Way 's crosses the entirety of Prague's UNESCO heritage listing which itself totals 8.5km² within the centre of the city, see *fig. 1*. The path follows the traditional coronation route of Bohemian kings, meaning it has had importance spanning the entirety of Prague's development, though still follows its original winding medieval route (Šumbera, 2012). The Royal Way begins at the last standing entrance to the historical Old Town at its boarder to New Town district to the east, before heading west crossing Old Town Square, then Charles Bridge to Lesser Town, leading up to Prague Castle and the fourth historical district, *Hradčany* (NPU, 1992; Šumbera, 2012). See *fig.2*.

History

Officially established in the 13th century, Prague's central districts have constantly developed and evolved (Národní Památkový Ustav (NPU), 1992). Architecture along the Royal Way dates to early medieval times, meaning many buildings have Romanesque or Gothic cores which were updated with Baroque, Mannerist, or Modernist facades in efforts to maintain the royal image of the coronation route (Šumbera, 2012). In the course of its 1100 year existence, Prague has been a global hub for artists and creatives who have developed it's *genius loci* which remains intact within the lived-in city today (Simpson, 1999; Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2016).

The routes' final destination, Prague Castle, has been maintained as the centre of power through Czech history, still today houses the office of the Czech President (Hrad.cz, 2022). In especially successful times, emperors like Charles IV or Rudolf II would patron ambitious construction projects, including Charles Bridge and Saint Vitus Cathedral, which are still considered as prized Czech heritage monuments because of the past importance of the city they showcase (Šumbera, 2012). In recent history, Prague sat in the centre of the turbulent 20th centuries' wars and was controlled by totalitarian rulers for over 40 years, yet nearly all of the architectural heritage has miraculously been preserved to this day (Holy, 1996). Shortly after the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic collapsed and the country opened its

borders, the Historic Centre of Prague was listed as a UNESCO heritage site in 1992 (UNESCO, 2012a).

Given the recent experiences living in a planned economy, the state's unwillingness to interfere with the market meant the area was not managed or regulated for a long time outside of historical preservation and construction requirements (Dumbrovská, 2017). This lack of managed growth began once the country entered the market economy in 1990 (Sýkora, 1994) and has required further strategies to prevent the negative impacts of overtourism in recent years (Kadlecová, 2010). These issues became publicly poignant recently due to UNESCO repeatedly warning Prague regarding the height limits for new construction in the buffer zone to preserve the integrity of the Outstanding Universal Values found in its skyline (World Heritage Centre (WHC) and ICOMOS, 2019).

Key Features

Mainly a walking path, this route includes 196 registered sites and connects the city's most popular attractions (NPU, 1992). Pedestrians walk along the cobblestone streets as most attractions are viewable from the outside, with the possibility to enter churches, towers, and a few other public buildings (Vaníček, 2019b). Most buildings along the route operate a store front on the ground floor and researchers in 2015 counted 349 tourist-facing businesses along the route (Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020), for further business breakdown see *figure 3*.

Ownership and Management

First protected by the state in 1971, the entire heritage zone of Prague is protected by Act No. 20/1987 under Heritage Monument Preservation law, and is managed by the Department of Historic Preservation within the Prague City Hall (NPU, 1992; WHC and ICOMOS, 2019). Annual reports have been nationally since 2000 to serve World Heritage property managers and other agencies (UNESCO, 2012a). While an inaugural municipal management plan is being prepared for publication this year, Prague has no heritage management plan beyond those for individual buildings (Dumbrovská and Fialová 2020).

Of the 170 shops accounted for along the Royal Way, 88% are tourist-oriented and nearly 70% have foreign owners, most of whom purchased the property during the privatization period in the 1990's (Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020). Charles Bridge is unique in that it has no permanent stalls, and is managed by The Charles Bridge Artists Association who permit mainly local artists and musicians along the space (Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020). The Prague Castle is also separately managed by an organisation established under the Office of the President of the Republic (UNESCO, 2012a). There is little evidence to suggest involvement of local community has been fostered in an active manner.

Access and Accessibility

Prague has high capacity and developed infrastructure to serve both domestic and international arrivals (Vaníček, 2019b). The Royal Way itself is publicly accessible, and used by visitors to reach the many attractions and services it connects. The sustainable tourism strategy proposed in 2020 focuses on the need to further tourist access to the periphery of Prague and for locals to maintain access to arts and culture (Prague City Tourism).

Accessibility of the Royal Way is hindered mainly due to the uneven cobblestone paving and the steep hill and stairs to the castle at the conclusion of the route (Bazuń and Kwiatkowski, 2020). This can be managed through alternative routes or utilizing public transportation.

Heritage Value and Stakeholders

Identifying the perceived values of heritage sites provides necessary context to make informed management decisions (Avrami et al, 2000). Categorising cultural significance has been prevalent since before the 1979 Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS, 1999) which lay groundwork for researchers like Orbaşlı (2008) who gave a range of possible heritage values that has been used to identify significance of Prague's Royal Way, see *fig. 5*.

Found in Prague's UNESCO listing are the stated *Outstanding Universal Values* identified by state leaders before Prague was added to the list in 1971 (UNESCO, 2012a). Emphasised in the listing is Prague's architectural heritage portraying many styles, the continuous urban growth and its importance since the middle ages, and the urban centre's significance as a renowned centre for learning, politics, religion and arts to this day (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019).

Prague and its historical centre are notable symbols nationally and internationally in part because of the close ties to the Czech national identity of past generations (Chlup, 2020). Important heritage narratives included in the shared national myth uniquely glorify historical events centred within the heritage property of Prague (Holy, 1996) Although it is important to note, past and present thought leaders have had their role in shaping narratives over time, underscoring Smith's (2006) warning of the *Authorised Heritage Discourse* constructing motives that may limit other perspectives within society.

Market Review

Position within tourism product

A dominant focus for visitors to Prague is the city's heritage, which they most often achieve via sightseeing the main attractions all within a condensed area, creating a "Prague for tourists and Prague for locals residents" within the city centre (Hoffman and Musil, 2009, p. 14; Tracz and Bajgier-Kowalska, 2019). The Royal Way connects several of these attractions with an estimated eight million visitors to each Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, and Old Town Square in 2017 (Vaníček, 2019a). Each of these visitors are expected to use the route multiple time's in their visit in addition to the local users, meaning route management must accommodate a crowd of up to 60 thousand people per day in high tourist season or work towards methods of dispersal (Prague City Tourism, 2020).

As a capital city, researchers have established that motivations for visiting often include entertainment, cultural activities, and increasingly popular alcohol related tourism like stag/hen parties (Tracz and Bajgier-Kowalska, 2019). The affordability of the region has added to its popularity, attracting new markets and aiding in the consistent growth in visitor numbers (Český Statistický Úřad, 2022). See *Fig 4* for annual accommodation and international arrival data.

In its most recent edition, the Lonely Planet travel guide addresses the mass tourism of the Royal Way sighting the "daily crush of tourists shouldering their way past a gauntlet of souvenir shops" (Baker, 2017, p. 206). This is due to both the self-led tourists who could be classified through du Cros and McKercher's (2014) typology as *casual or serendipitous cultural tourists*, and the large tour group's led down the route by a guide, classified as *sightseeing cultural tourists* due to the shallow experiences sought by this group.

Target Markets

Prague City Tourism’s Strategy for Sustainable Tourism prioritizes conferences and hosting large groups like sporting and educational events outside of the city-centre. Furthermore, the strategy lists people interested in *slow tourism*, families with children, and other untroublesome tourist as target markets (Prague City Tourism, 2020).

Tourism Impacts

Impact	Issue
Lack of Detailed Management Plan	
Authenticity & Commodification	Souvenirs
	Performances
	Food
	Museums
Managing a living City	Housing Costs
	Concentration of Tourists
	Night-time noise
	Modern Development
Physical conservation	Signage
	Trash
	Wear and Tear
	Graffiti & Vandalism

Table 1 - Tourism impacts and issues

Lack of Detailed Management Plan

The City of Prague will be delivering its first municipal management plan to UNESCO by the end of 2022 (UNESCO, 2021). There has not been a detailed management plan of the heritage site before this time, and it is expected for the newly published plan to include aspects set forth in Prague City Tourism’s Sustainability Strategy (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019; Prague City Tourism, 2020). As many of the issues included below are best managed by the city and through a detailed management plan, it is in all stakeholders best interests to participate in the development process and to strike a balance in supporting tourism revenue and preventing potential negative impacts (Pedersen, 2002).

Authenticity & Commodification

Underpinned by the Nara Document of Authenticity, UNESCO urges the prioritization of broader perspectives in local heritage valuation to ensure responsible management and broader authenticity take place in heritage sites (Lemaire, 1994). Prague’s Royal Way presents issues with these priorities due to the relaxed management practices that have allowed for continued commodification, thus interfering with tourists’ ability to access *authentic* experiences during their journey (Kadlecová, 2010). This is most notable in the ubiquitous gift shops offering mass-produced souvenirs or other tourist oriented goods

(Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020). The high frequency of price-inflated and geographically displaced goods like Russian Matryoshka dolls makes the minority of shops that do offer authentic products difficult to identify (Vaníček, 2019a). For instance, marionette dolls are a popular item on display in these generic shops and deserve management attention as Czech and Slovak puppetry is inscribed on the UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage, though only four traditional shops offer the dolls along the entire route (Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020).

Regulation can be a solution, but as McKercher and du Cros point out, “tourists want authenticity but not necessarily reality” (2002, p.40). Prague’s Royal Way encapsulates this dichotomy, visible in the homogenization of food offers presented for tourists, of which the *trdelník* are most popular, even though locals are fully aware these pastries have Hungarian roots (Lee, 2019). There certainly are authentic offerings along the Royal Way including accessible heritage sites, Czech-owned brands, and some street performers – though researchers continue note the need for quality control of both items and experiences presented to tourists (Jurková, 2017; Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020). Dumbrovská and Fialová have followed the development of ‘Tourist Traps’ on the Royal Way including those listed above, and also mention issues with many artificially created museums like wax, torture instrument, or chocolate museums which lack connection to local culture and whose sole purpose are to extract money (2016).

Managing a Living City

As a prosperous capitol city, Prague’s heritage managers must balance the preservation of tangible sights as well as the evolving living heritage that both attract modern visitors (UNESCO, 2013). Engagement with local issues became a necessity as outcries over housing costs placed blame on the new short-term *Airbnb style* rental model (Dumbrovská, 2017). Tourists are blamed for taking available property away from local residents and causing price inflation that makes rents unaffordable for local wages. Though residents do not view tourists negatively for visiting, the price inflation and extreme concentration of tourism in certain locations displaces locals who deal with this pressure by managing the time and direction of their own movements (Dumbrovská, 2017).

Tourism researchers argue that there may be benefits to residents lives being separated from the visitors to their city, but also warn of the potential separation of tourism from local culture creating a *tourist ghetto* (Hoffman and Musil, 2009). Unfortunately inescapable, is the night-time noise within the city-centre which negatively impacts residents’ lives and is represents a key reason for relocation (Dumbrovská, 2017). None of the impacts to local residents listed above have regulation in place which researchers point out as a probable cause for the uncontrolled developments (Kadlecová, 2010).

Finally, the City of Prague must ensure the balance of local life and historical heritage when approving future modern development of tall construction, even beyond the city centre (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019). As the city skyline is an important heritage value included in Prague’s listing documents, condemnation was raised by UNESCO after the Czech government defied warnings and began construction of intrusive buildings (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019). The government is now aware of potential consequences for future actions, and appear to be managing approval procedures appropriately, but are required to showcase further solutions to UNESCO when submitting the final management plan.

Physical Conservation

Highlighted in UNESCO manuals is the importance for community values to be leading the management and conservation decisions surrounding the physical fabric of a heritage property (UNESCO, 2013). Along the Royal Way, a negative issue common to residents and tourists is the commercial signage and colourful advertisements covering the view or the facades of buildings, reducing the overall aesthetic of the route (Kadlecová, 2010).

Additional pressures caused by tourism include environmental impacts, especially from food and water consumption. Waste produced by tourists adds additional burden on public services such as requiring added bins and trash disposal (Lochman, 2021). Necessary investment for infrastructure maintenance is also growing as the concentrated numbers of people passing over the same space daily accelerate the physical damage, thus requiring more frequent repairs (Pedersen, 2002). Further spread of tourism will also bring along impacts that aren't directly related, like graffiti and vandalism to the heritage property (Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2016). Cases of vandalism to heritage sights are not uncommon, which is why the Technology Department of the City of Prague developed an app titled *Without Graffiti* so that residents can alert the authorities and it can be taken care of quickly (2020).

It is important to note, that the additional revenue earned due to the rapid economic growth of the historical core in recent decades is what made the repair of many historic buildings to their current condition possible (Dumbrovská, 2017).

Comparator Review

Ljubljana, the capitol of Slovenia is a smaller city than Prague, but has had related history and similar tourism development issues (Mihalic and Kuščer, 2021). In recent years, the city has been awarded the distinction of European Capital of Smart Tourism and a prestigious Responsible Tourism award (City of Ljubljana, 2019). Public sustainability initiatives led by the City of Ljubljana have included supporting green domestic supply chains, developing an app to find water fountains, and managing visitor flow with emphasis on improving citizens living conditions (2017, Bilynets et al, 2021). Ljubljana also installed tactile signs, a wheelchair app, and an electric vehicle network in a focus on accessibility in the city (City of Ljubljana, 2019). Prague may take inspiration from the *Art&Craft Slovenija* certification Slovenia established to support local artisans (Slovenia Tourist Board, 2022).

Suggested Interventions

Value-based prioritization has been applied to the discussed issues with consideration for the foreseen impacts and the necessary investment (including cost, time, effort, etc).

Suggested interventions have been sourced from the City of Ljubljana, academic literature, and the UNESCO handbook for World Heritage Site managers (Pederson, 2001). Projects have also been inspired by current strategies or projects already successful in the region. Estimated costs are tabulated alongside perceived potential benefits to each issue.

These interventions are grouped into the 4 projects below, each of which encompass solutions to several of the discussed tourism issues:

- Local handicraft campaign
- Community developed rental policy
- Tour operator flow management
- Living cities campaign

Management Implications	Issue	Suggested Intervention	Stakeholder Involvement	Investment Budget	Perceived benefits
Authenticity & Commodification	Souvenirs	Local handicraft campaign: Certification and highlighting local products much like the CzechTourism agency is already doing for restaurants through CzechSpecials (CzechSpecials, 2022). Certified stores and products will be visible from the street and supported through an advertising campaign.	City of Prague CzechTourism	Low, could fall within CzechTourism's pre-existing PR budget	This allows tourists shopping for Bohemian crystal or other handmade goods to avoid the <i>tourist traps</i> and support local artisans.
	Museums	Community developed rental policy: As Prague lacks community input in matters important to them, the municipality of Prague 1 can invite residents to participate in a co-developed rental policy to managing short-term accommodations. This can lead to stricture rules for storefronts and supporting new culturally relevant museums (like a museum dedicated to the Royal Way's history) and accessible tourism information services.	City of Prague	Low-Medium, costs related to development meetings, tourist services, and museum policy management are expected.	Replacement of mass produced souvenir shops with culturally relevant options relieves pressure for the few attractions along the route and begins to make Czech heritage more accessible for visitors on the Royal Way.
Managing a living City	Housing Costs		Residents	Medium, due to enforcement costs of short-term rentals	By allowing the residents to participate in policy development, a balance of living standards and profits can be found since they are essential to maintaining the <i>genius loci</i> of the heritage centre. This will also hold regulators publicly accountable to manage unregistered listings.
	Concentration of Tourists	Tour operator flow management:	City of Prague	Medium, costs for tour operator management would increase,	Dispersing tourists both temporally and spatially can be managed with

		<p>The timing and location of coach parking can be further dispersed to ease tourist flow through the centre.</p> <p>Free public transportation and ticketed entry discounts provided to operators who cooperate with parking buses further away from centre</p> <p>Expanded hours for top attractions (ie. St. Vitus Cathedral) to assist in dispersing tourist crowds temporally.</p>	<p>Prague Castle - Office of the President of the Republic</p> <p>St. Vitus Cathedral</p> <p>Tour Operators</p>	<p>alongside additional spending for ticket discounts. Although simple changes in opening hours are expected to be costly.</p>	<p>tour operators willing to cooperate in return for discounted pricing.</p> <p>Expanding access times to popular attractions allows for flexibility in itineraries developed by independent travellers and groups of tourists, thus dispersing visiting hours across the route to reduce concentration.</p>
	Night-time noise	<p>Living cities campaign:</p> <p>Through regeneration of old billboards and reclaimed marketing infrastructure, Prague’s visual smog can become tourist education. Poster slots along the wall or marketing billboards can be limited by the city and replaced with posters highlighting <i>living city</i> issues such as fines for vandalism, quiet hours, trash/recycling advice, and information / directions.</p>		<p>Low-Medium, as a tourist-oriented campaign, the City of Prague can utilize other tourism management funding for the PR efforts. Costs would be due to installation costs and updates required to the pre-existing marketing infrastructure.</p>	<p>Signs can aid to disperse tourists to less impacted areas by pointing them to sights or neighbourhoods they otherwise wouldn’t have explored.</p> <p>Quite hour notices can be posted to create awareness of the issue. Noise measuring devices can be installed to alert authorities of disturbances.</p>
Physical conservation	Signage	<p>To reach more tourists, the campaign can extend to locations like the airport or train stations in addition to an online presence through social media advertisements, etc.</p>	City of Prague		<p>Removing the visual smog improves visual access to the architecture for which Prague is valued.</p>
	Trash				<p>Increasing access and awareness of responsible waste disposal habits can prevent further impacts to public services.</p>
	Graffiti & Vandalism				<p>Less disturbance for local residents regarding the disrespectful actions to valued heritage.</p> <p>Preventing the need for unnecessary repairs and upkeep.</p>

Table 2 - Suggested Interventions

Appendix

Figure 1 – Historic Centre of Prague - Map of the World Heritage property

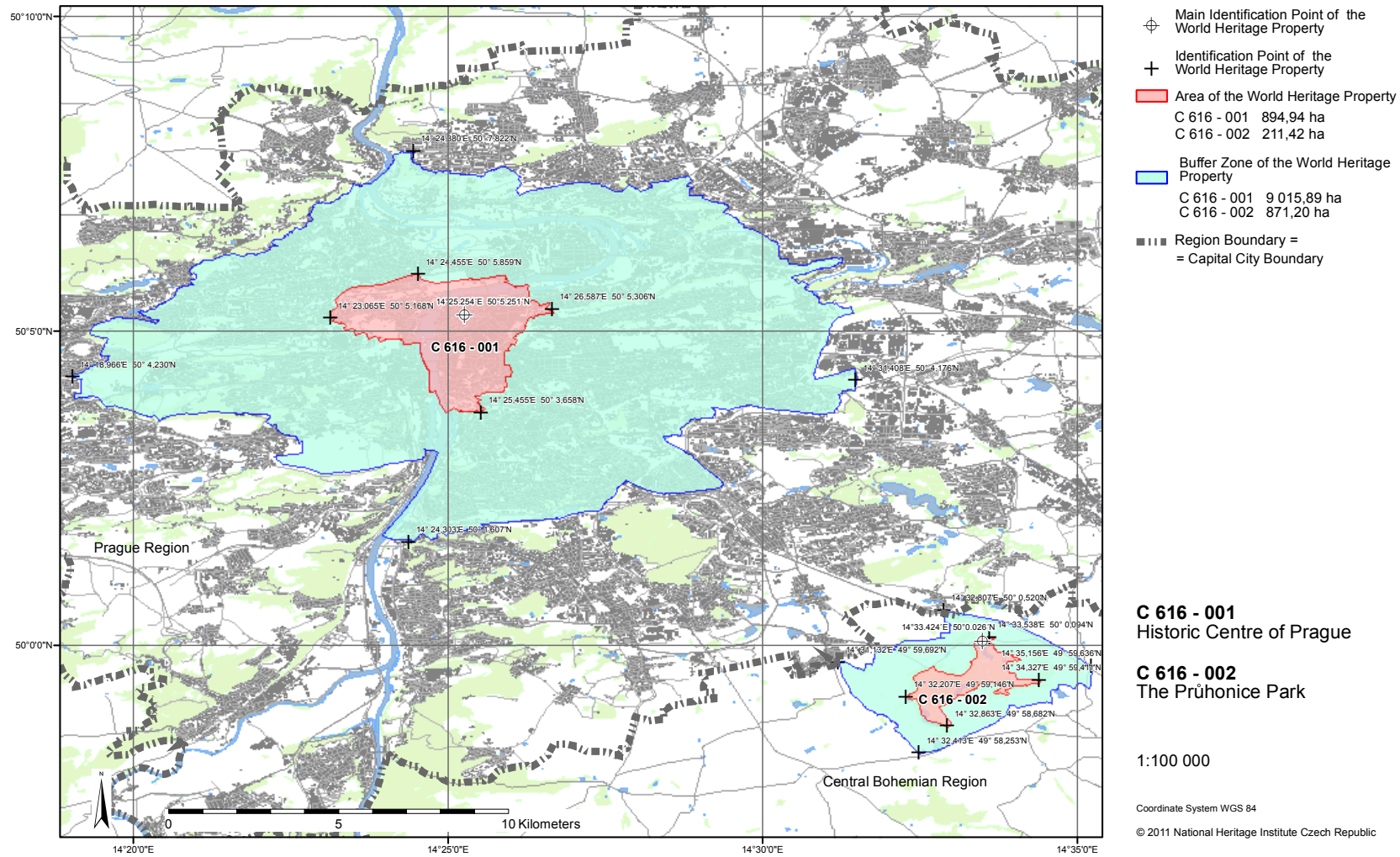


Figure 1 (UNESCO, 2012b)

Figure 2 – Map of the Royal Way

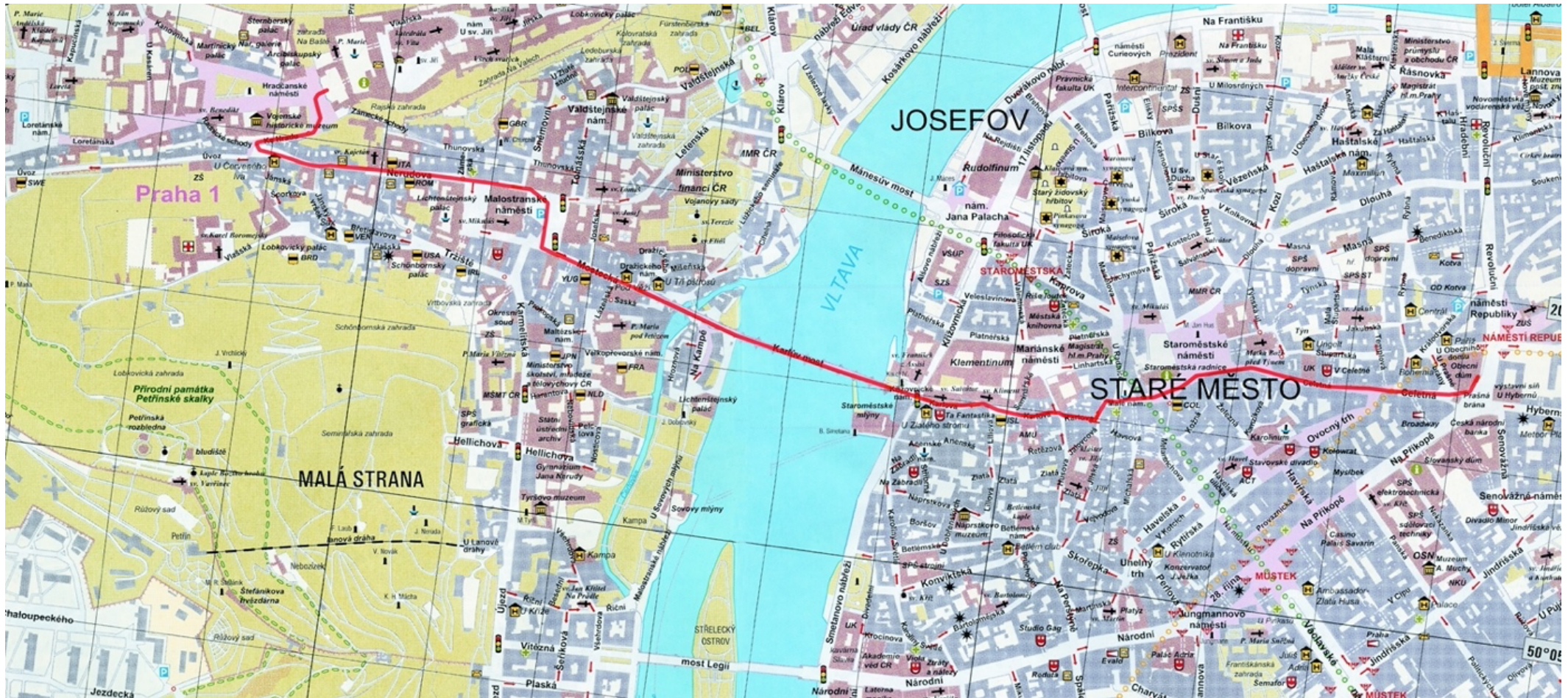


Figure 2 (Sivek Hotels, 2022)

Figure 3 – Souvenir Shops on the Royal Way in Prague in 2016

Type of shop	number (abs.)	share (%)
General souvenirs shops	69	46
Goldsmith and jewellery shops	37	25
Glass and crystal shops	19	13
Toys and Marionets	5	3
Natural cosmetics	3	2
Handbags	9	6
Kitchen textiles	2	1
Drinks and alcohol	3	2
Candies	3	2
<i>In total</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>100</i>

Figure 3 – Souvenir Shops on the Royal Way in Prague in 2016 (Dumbrovská and Fialová, 2020)

Figure 4 – Market Data

Occupancy in collective accommodation establishments

region	Guests total	including		Overnight stays total	including		Average number of overnight stays (nights)	including	
		Residents	Non-residents		Residents	Non-residents		Residents	Non-residents
2012	5,726,454	806,997	4,919,457	14,443,143	1,506,098	12,937,045	2.5	1.9	2.6
2013	5,899,630	851,674	5,047,956	14,654,282	1,597,351	13,056,931	2.5	1.9	2.6
2014	6,096,015	780,961	5,315,054	14,750,287	1,368,554	13,381,733	2.4	1.8	2.5
2015	6,605,776	890,941	5,714,835	15,917,265	1,576,176	14,341,089	2.4	1.8	2.5
2016	7,127,558	1,016,796	6,110,762	16,796,384	1,778,681	15,017,703	2.4	1.7	2.5
2017	7,652,761	1,090,243	6,562,518	18,055,838	1,923,556	16,132,282	2.4	1.8	2.5
2018	7,892,184	1,221,478	6,670,706	18,249,084	2,116,084	16,133,000	2.3	1.7	2.4
2019	8,044,324	1,240,583	6,803,741	18,479,653	2,107,691	16,371,962	2.3	1.7	2.4
2020	2,182,443	728,913	1,453,530	4,903,295	1,351,953	3,551,342	2.2	1.9	2.4
2021	2,354,720	943,464	1,411,256	5,257,254	1,828,818	3,428,436	2.2	1.9	2.4

Code: CRU03sk1-R/1

Territory: Prague, the Capital City

Figure 4a – Occupancy in collective accommodation establishments: Prague (Český Statistický Úřad, 2022)

TOP 10 COUNTRIES ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF ARRIVALS

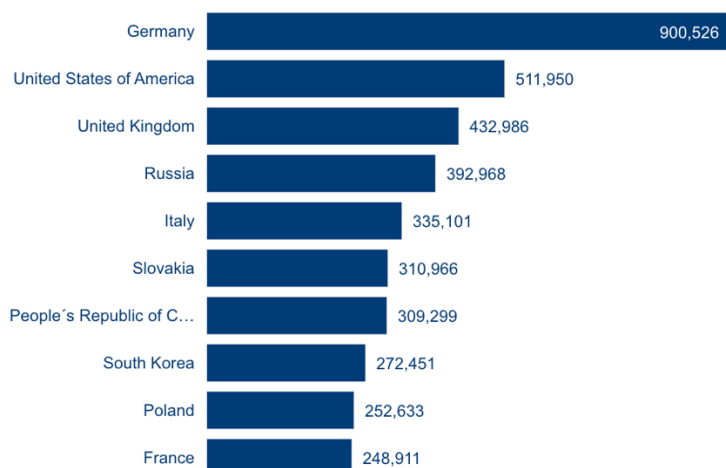


Figure 4b - Prague Arrivals 2019: Top 10 Countries (Český Statistický Úřad, 2022)

Figure 5 - Orbařli (2008) Matrix

Value	Significance				Evidence
	Local	Regional	National	International	
Age & rarity	X	X	X	X	Both the age and rarity of the buildings along the Royal way are listed a reasons they are protected under Act No. 20/1987 (NPU, 1992). Charles Bridge itself is world famous for its long-standing construction and one-of-a-kind features (řumbera, 2012).
Architectural		X	X	X	The architecture within Prague’s historical centre are protected under Act No. 20/1987 (NPU, 1992). Two of the three Outstanding Universal Values included in historical Prague’s UNESCO listing focus on the traditions and quality of the architecture (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019).
Artistic		X	X	X	Unique art styles to Prague can also be found along the Royal Way, most notably cubist architecture of the early 20 th visible in The House of the Black Madonna (Kadlecov, 2010). The Old Town Halls’ Astronomical clock was originally painted by famous Czech artist, Josef Manes, and recent reproduction of the 19 th century calendar plate has brought national controversy which is currently under investigation (Tate, 2022).
Associative			X		The <i>Golden Age</i> of Prague is known as the period beginning when Holy Roman Emperor John of Luxembourg became King of Bohemia in 1310 through Rudolf II’s rule in the 17 th century. This time of Czech success is associated to many developments along the Royal Way (Kadlecov, 2010).
Cultural	X	X	X		Act No. 20/1987 of Act on State Monument Preservation includes hundreds of cultural monuments along the Royal Way (NPU, 1992). Sitting next to the Powder tower at the start of the route is Obecn dm, nationally valued for the work of Czech artist Alfons Mucha in the Art Nuveau style. Along the Route, local buskers and professional chamber performances are both found (Jurkov, 2017).
Economic	X		X		Profit earned from tourism is prioritized by both residential shop owners and the City of Prague who operates many heritage sites (Vaniek, 2019b).
Educational		X	X		Prague University, founded in 1348, is one of the earliest in Europe and still preserves the city as a renowned seat of learning to this day (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019).
Emotional	X				During the Prague Uprising in May 1945, locals defending the Old Town Hall were bombed and half the building was destroyed, leaving painful memories still visible today (Kadlecov, 2010)
Historic	X	X	X	X	While sections were used previously, the journey of the coronation processions began to follow the current route in the 15th century. The first person to take the current route during their coronation was

					Albert II of Habsburg in 1438 and the last coronation took place when Ferdinand V became Czech king in 1836 (Šumbera, 2012).
Local distinctiveness			X		Prague's importance throughout Bohemian history is showcase through centuries of grandiose architecture most visible when viewing the skyline (Šumbera, 2012) Prague is often referred to as 'The city of a hundred spires' (Holy, 1996).
Political	X	X	X	X	While not visible from street level, residents are aware of the importance of the belfry tower of the Church of St. Nicholas. The tower was an ideal location to spy on the US and German embassies, and used through the cold war by communist spies. It is now a museum that can be visited to learn more about the StB (Prague City Tourism, 2022)
Public	X		X		Several locations of public importance exist along the route, most important the public Squares which have been public meeting locations for centuries (Šumbera, 2012). Additionally, the president of the countries office is in the Prague Castle, and the complex is kept freely accessible to all public (Hrad.cz, 2022).
Religious/spiritual			X	X	Several important religious events are commemorated along the Royal Way, including the location of St. John of Nepomuk's martyrdom (Šumbera, 2012). In 1621, the execution of 27 supporters of Bohemian Revolt occurred on Old Town Square and is memorialized in front of the town hall today, an important reminder to the protestant history and following centuries of re-Catholicism in the Czech lands (Kaminsky, 2004).
Scientific		X	X	X	Prague's Orloj is discussed within " <i>Outstanding Astronomical Heritage</i> " literature due to the important historic scientific significance of the Astronomical clock (Wolfschmidt, 2021). In the Klementinum complex, the astronomical tower has been performing temperature measurement daily since 1775 (Klementinum, 2022).
Symbolic		X	X		Several buildings along the Royal Way act as symbols of Prague and the Czech Republic to Czechs. Recent research by Matlovičová et. al. shows that the path itself is symbolic for crossing the Charles Bridge, the castle and the rest of Prague's most well-known symbols. (Šumbera, 2012; 2019).
Technical		X	X	X	Viewers of the hourly show presented by Prague's Astronomical Clock will be impressed by the technical capabilities dating by centuries (Tate, 2022)
Townscape	X			X	Included in the cities UNESCO listing, Outstanding Universal Value iv clearly states the importance of the overall townscape in making Prague world famous (WHC and ICOMOS, 2019).

Table 3 – Orbaşlı (2008) Matrix

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