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LETNÍ ŠKOLA SLOVANSKÝCH STUDIÍ V PRAZE

Filozofická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy



Legendary Prague I.

Czech Traditional Folk Culture

Visit to the hidden gem of Prague – Ethnographic Museum of the National Museum, located in the picturesque Kinsky Summer House in romantic Kinsky garden. We will learn about Czech popular culture of the past, traditional customs, rituals and festivities, visit temporary exhibitions, and possibly have a drink in local café. Building on this experience, we will then descend to the city centre and learn more about local legends, myths and folktales.



Suggested Readings

Erben, Karel Jaromír: *A Bouquet of Czech Folktales*. 2012
(most important collection of Czech Romantic ballads inspired by folklore).

Dvořáková, Hana – Janeček, Petr: *Ethnological Museums in the Czech Republic: Documentation, Presentation and Interpretation of Traditional Folk Culture*.

Journal of Ethnology/Národopisná revue 25, 5, 2015, pp.

76-84

(overview of interest in Czech traditional material culture and best folk museums in the Czech Republic).

Wilson, William: *Herder, Folklore, and Romantic Nationalism*.

Journal of Popular Culture 6, 4, 1973, pp. 819-835

(use of folklore by nationalistic movements, including the Czech one).



doc. PhDr. Petr Janeček, Ph.D.

Petr Janeček's area of study is contemporary folklore – rumours, urban legends, memes and conspiracy theories. He has published 4 books on this topic in the series *Černá sanitka* (Black Ambulance), which were adapted for theatre, radio and TV. He has been teaching at the Institute of

Ethnology at the Faculty of Arts since 2012.

He regularly organises workshops for the summer school in the form of guided tours through the legends of old and modern Prague. This is his childhood dream coming true, because he loved old Prague legends as a child, especially those with ghosts and phantoms.

He never leaves his house without his GPS device, where he can track the movements of his tomcat Frank as he wanders the gardens of Prague's district Pankrác. He is an introverted extrovert.

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Web: <https://lss.ff.cuni.cz>, e-mail: lss.praha@ff.cuni.cz, telefon: +420 221 619 839