



**EVS project PUZZLE**

**Info Pack  
for new volunteers**

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2. Area Description and free time possibilities in Rychnov
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# 1. How to get to OKO



You can take **BUS AIRPORT EXPRESS** - a directly connection from airport to train station. You can buy ticket at driver place in bus and the price is 50 Kč with all luggage. So you can come directly (without change a bus and metro) to train station. The bus comes every 30 minutes (10.04, 10.34, 11.04, 11.34, 12.04, 12.34...) and the station are directly by all terminals. The bus need 51 minutes from airport to the train station and the bus has only 3 stations on its way: 1.Airport - 2.Masarykovo nadrazi (that is an old train station) - 3.Hlavni nadrazi (that is main new train station). Get up on Hlavni nadrazi! You will be directly next the train station : )

Than you need only to buy ticket for a train from Prague to Rychnov nad Kneznou. The price is usally 213 Kc.

Usually the train drives directly only to Hradec Kralove and it is necessary to change the train in Hradec Kralove and in Castolovice. There are times of departure from Prague:

09.11 No.R945  
10.11 No.R925  
13.11 No.R947  
17.11 No.R949

One train drives directly from Prague to Castolovice, so it is necessary to change the train only in Castolovice

15:11 No. R935

Or you can take a bus. There is quite a lot of possibilities - you can find it online or at the train station in Prague.

When you know exactly time of your arrival to Rychnov, you will text me and I will be waiting for you at the train/bus station in Rychnov first day. Hope you will have enough instructions and a good journey :)

Jitka and Vasek

## 2. Area Description and free time possibilities in Rychnov

Dear next volunteers,

*you could find a lot of information about our project in The Activity description and here is a description of our town and free time possibilities. This description have our volunteers prepared, they've spent almost one year in OKO project and our town. It is good to know that Rychnov is often small town or village for our volunteers, but for some volunteers, who are also from villages, is Rychnov nice, calm and quiet town with wonderful country site. So, you can start your reading.*



*Jitka - head of OKO*

Rychnov nad Kneznou is a small town with about 12.000 inhabitants, so life here is very calm: shops close at 5pm during the week and they are closed in the week end, restaurants close at 11pm but there are some non-stop pubs.

A lot of young people go away from this town to go to study in bigger towns in the surroundings like Hradec Kralove or Pardubice. It takes about one hour to go to Hradec Kralove by train, which is the main town in this area, but there are no night trains or buses. Train and bus connections are sometimes quite difficult, it takes at least about three hours and three changes to go to Prague (it is about 150 km to Prague). What is more difficult is to meet people here, especially young people who can and want to speak English (because these people do not live in Rychnov, they are studying in bigger towns); it is also not easy to learn Czech and to be able to have a conversation (especially for non-slavonic language native speakers); so it's hard to get in touch with people, even though a lot of people here can speak a little bit of German. But if you find friends, than they are usually kind, friendly and helpful.

On the other hand around Rychnov there is a lot of wild nature: rivers, lakes and woods where you can go when the weather is nice and where you can see also some wild animals, especially deers and rabbits. There are also plenty of small picturesque villages with castles and watchtowers in the countryside.

If you are sportive there are gyms and sport teams you can join, a swimming pool close to the apartments and in winter you can go cross-country skiing not far from the block of flats or downhill skiing on the mountains Orlicke Hory. We have some volunteers' skiing equipment in the flats, and you can always ask to someone in OKO if they can borrow you some special clothes or skiing equipment for the snow (everyone is really helpful).

There is also the possibility to play bowling or squash, or if you like music there is a choir and a music school you can join to play some instruments or have some lessons. You can use the volunteers' guitar we'll leave in the flat.

There is also a cinema (with some English films), a theatre and a discoclub.

In spring and summer there are a lot of open air festivals and concerts you can go to, where you can also camp. The most difficult period is winter, which is very cold (temperature can reach -25°C, usually is about -2-10°C) and it is quite long; furthermore not so much is going on during this period (you can enjoy the snow skiing or snowboarding), compared to spring or summer (nice weather for going to forests, lakes or mountains, concerts...).

Volunteers from OKO



### 3. Clothes

You should wear casual clothes (jeans and T-shirts). Only I prefer to wear usually suit, skirt, blouse or jumper because I deal with partners and clients but other teachers. Volunteers really wear usually jeans and T-shirts.

### 4. Weather



#### **In summer** (Jun, July, August)

There is about 20-30, sometimes about 30-34. It's raining not every day, only sometime and you can swim in pools outside..

#### **In autumn or in spring**

There is about 10-15-20. It can be sunny or cloudy, sometime foggy and windy and it can be raining. Quite mix of all possibilities. You can see some wonderful sunny days but dull days, too.

#### **In winter**

There is the weather different and diverse: -5,-10,-20 or 0, +5. We have snow about 2-3 months in Rychnov. In Prague is snow only sometimes, but in Mountains (20 km from Rychnov) we have snow usually from December to March - April. So take also jacket, gloves, cap and good boots for winter. You can see wonderful winter time with sun and snow. But sometime is there cloudy without the Sun and than is the winter time quit to long and tiresome.

# 5. EVS flats in OKO

There is one flat for the EVS volunteers, in an office building in the centre of the town. In the building, there are OKO's office and two OKO's rooms, where the language courses take place. There is a Lidl market 5 minutes from the flats.

Two volunteers stay together in one larger room and two volunteers have their own smaller rooms. There are two bathrooms and one kitchen for volunteers.



Both rooms are fully furnished. In the kitchen there are a stove, an oven and cooking equipment.

In flat there are the washing machine, clothes line, iron and CD-player.



There are enough sheets and some towels. But maybe it is best to bring your own towel. There is one vacuum cleaner and one hair dryer.

The flat is equipped with all the necessary things that you may need in your every day life.

At first the walls of the rooms may seem white and empty. But it is always possible to paint them or you can bring posters and picture, etc. to put them on the walls.

There is a Wi-Fi in the flat.

