

VISITING YOUR STUDENT IN PRAGUE

To help you gain insight into your student's transformative experience abroad with Verto, Verto staff host a **Mid-Semester Family Circle**. This event includes helpful sessions on subjects like academic & career success, affording college, and finding purpose. We believe that participating in the **Mid-Semester Family Circle** is the best way for families to connect with their student's experience while **encouraging them to focus on their coursework**, **academic success**, and building their abroad community.

If you plan on visiting, please adhere to the following guidelines.

Dropping Off Your Student

For family members who choose to drop-off their student in Prague, we welcome you! Please do keep in mind that this is **not required**, and students who travel independently will be received in great hands by Verto staff.

Please note that family members can only drop their student **<u>outside</u>** of their housing address. Only students are allowed inside of our housing, per our Housing Provider and Verto policies, and for the wellbeing of all students.

If You Plan to Visit Your Student While Abroad

Families are welcome to visit students, though we strongly recommend coordinating your visit in conjunction with a local holiday, or during a time when your student doesn't have important academic deadlines. Ask your student to consult their syllabus to determine when might be a good time for them to host you. Students will be quite busy with their coursework and experiential learning activities, so visitors may not be able to spend as much time with their Vertoan as they may have hoped. Additionally, participants whose families visited in the past have experienced more intense homesickness or fallen behind in their coursework as a result of the visit.

Academic and attendance policies remain in place regardless of visitors. Participants are strongly discouraged from missing classes to host family, friends, and other visitors. Should a participant plan to miss class, they should speak with their instructors and Care Team Leader in advance to understand the consequences for doing so.

Tips for Your Visit to the Czech Republic

Verto Participant Schedule

If you choose to visit during the abroad experience, you'll want to keep in mind your student's class and activity schedule. Classes can take place anytime between 9am and 6pm Monday through Friday. Every week, there are activities that may be optional or required as part of your student's coursework.

During Verto Discovery Days (your student's first days on-site), all participants will receive a semester calendar with their activity schedule. **We are not able to invite families to participate in student activities**. We encourage you to check with your student about their schedule before planning your visit.

Lodging in Prague

The Verto Study Center is located in the heart of the city center, Václavské náměstí (Wenceslas Square) and student residences are located in neighborhoods close by. the Karlín neighborhood. If you would like to stay near your student's residence, we suggest using booking.com and typing in the neighborhood.

Travel from the Airport

Taxis from the Prague airport to the city center run between \$20-\$40, depending on time of day and traffic. Uber is the official transportation provider for the Prague airport so you can download the app before you arrive and easily find an Uber once you land. It is also possible to take public transportation. You will have to take a bus and the metro, and specific information can be found at the Information Desk at the airport.

Our team looks forward to meeting you in-person or virtually soon!