

The Franz Kafka Bookshop – A Unique Bookseller in Prague –



The bookshop is a component of the Franz Kafka Society and is headquartered along with it in Široká Street 14, between the narrow Maiselova Street and the luxurious Pařížská Avenue, in the very centre of the historical part of the city. Every place here has its story; every house plays a role in the cultural and literary history of the city as well as the country. The bookshop neighbours the Maisel Synagogue, and High and Old-New Synagogues are in view. It is a few-minute walk to Kafka's birthplace near the Church of St Nicholas, to the 'Jewish Town Hall', where the leadership of the Prague Jewish Community has long

been headquartered, as well as to the old stone Jewish cemetery. It is in the centre of Kafka's living space, surrounded by the homes where he lived, the libraries where he studied, the lecture halls where he was educated and the cafés where he spoke to friends. By the way, Kafka's favourite niece, Věra, lives not far away in a spacious flat in an Art Nouveau building.

The Franz Kafka Bookshop was opened in 2007 as a part of the headquarters of the Franz Kafka Society and Centre. It has a distinctly architecturally designed interior: the oblong space with limited access of sunlight is lined along the perimeter by black bookcases; under the high ceiling, an open gallery of steel works is hanging in the shape of the letter U, which provides access to the books deposited in the upper shelves. The space is to be reminiscent of a burrow where one can hide from the sun and submerge oneself into books. Through the bookshop, one can enter the library and the study room with publications related to Kafka. The ambivalent play of black and white, light and dark, which was personally brought to the architectural solution of the headquarters of the Franz Kafka Society by world-known architect Steven Hall is implemented even here.

The bookshop is open every day from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Our employees are professionally trained and speak English.

Photo Gallery:



