

POLYMER WEEK 2025

THE NATURE OF CLAY

WELCOME TO POLYMER WEEK 2025!

Hello everyone! We're thrilled to have you join us for what promises to be an extraordinary celebration of creativity, learning, and community. This document is your personal guide throughout the event, packed with all the essential details you'll need, from travel tips and local hotspots to class information and activities.

Dive in, explore, and get ready to make the most out of this unforgettable experience!

YOUR CLASSES & SPACE

As a valued participant, you'll have your own dedicated seat for all classes, your creative home base throughout the week. Feel free to leave your items overnight, but please keep in mind we can't take responsibility for personal belongings.

On the first day (Thursday), please avoid bringing your own clay materials or tools—we won't need them that day. If you arrive with luggage, we can store it in our secure area. On Friday morning, you'll be able to set up your table for the start of the classes.

Each class table will be thoughtfully prepared with tiles and clay supplies. A detailed list of materials required for your classes will be sent to you via email in advance.

Please note that while we encourage sharing and showcasing your personal artwork, selling your own products during classes isn't permitted. However, you will have a fantastic opportunity to sell your pieces at our dedicated market on Thursday!

Special Needs Support:

We want everyone to feel comfortable and included. If you have a health condition or simply need a quieter moment, there is a quiet zone located in the hall just outside the main venue, where you can take a break and recharge away from the hustle and bustle. For any special requirements, please don't hesitate to contact us, we're here to help.

SHOPPING AT POLYMER WEEK

Explore our pop-up store, featuring exclusive Polymer Week merchandise alongside a curated selection of clay tools and materials. Opening on Thursday morning, you can grab your goodie and proceed with payments in CZK, EUR (cash preferred to avoid currency fees), or by credit card.

If you pick up more goodies than you can comfortably carry, no worries — we can help ship your purchased items (excluding personal belongings or craft materials), ensuring your treasures arrive safely at your preferred address.

Please note: *We are unable to ship flammable items, personal craft materials or tools, or any items that may face difficulties clearing customs when shipping from the EU to overseas destinations.*

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

Fuel your creativity with delicious meals available at the venue's canteen during lunch breaks on full-class days (*Friday to Sunday*). To cater to everyone's preferences, the canteen will offer a variety of meal options, including vegetarian and vegan dishes. You can choose what you like and pay by weight — in CZK or by credit card.

For lighter bites, snacks, or drinks, a range of refreshments and great coffee will be available throughout each day. Feel free to bring your own favourite treats as well — and no worries, tap water here is safe to drink.

For guests with celiac disease: Gluten-free options will be available at the canteen, but please be aware that the kitchen is not certified as 100% gluten-free. If you are highly sensitive, we recommend bringing your own safe meals or snacks. You're very welcome to store them and enjoy them during breaks.

If you have specific dietary needs, feel free to contact us in advance — we're happy to help however we can.

PASTA MACHINES & TOOLS

Every class requires a pasta machine (manual only, please, motorized machines are too noisy). Remember to bring table clamps for stability. If you need to rent one, pre-order through our website for 30 EUR, a fee designed to help those traveling far or with special needs.

We'll take care of cleaning the machines at the end of the event, and kindly ask you to treat the equipment with care as if it were your own.

A full list of required tools and materials is available on our website. Many items will be provided in your welcome goodie bag or available for purchase at our pop-up store, especially those tricky to bring on planes like blades, liquids, and glues.

If you have questions about what you can pack in your luggage, please check the official TSA website or contact them directly via Facebook Messenger:

- [tsa.gov](https://www.tsa.gov)
- [facebook.com/AskTSA](https://www.facebook.com/AskTSA)

FUN & COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Clay Market:** Thursday brings a special market where you can rent a table (120 x 80 cm for 30 EUR) to showcase and sell your creations or products alongside our talented teachers. Reserve your spot at www.polymerweek2025.com.
- **Networking Opportunities:** In addition to the market, don't miss our designated "Meet & Greet" sessions on Thursday afternoon during the market. To help you connect with other attendees and share your photos or videos, use our official event hashtag **#PolymerWeek2025**. It's a great way to share your experience, discover inspiring moments, and find new friends online!
- **Surprise Giveaway Drops:** Keep an eye out for surprise giveaways and raffle drops throughout the event! We love adding unexpected moments of joy to spark excitement and keep the fun going, so stay tuned, you never know when your lucky moment might come!

HEALTH & SAFETY

Your wellbeing is our top priority! First aid supplies will be available at three locations: the pop-up store, the teachers' table, and the refreshments bistro stand. We'll also provide quick-reference information on the nearest medical facilities in case of emergency.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (FOR INTERNATIONAL GUESTS)

Dial 112

- This is the **European emergency number** — free of charge and available in **English** (and other languages).
- It connects you directly to **police, ambulance, or fire services**.

LOCAL EMERGENCY NUMBERS - CZECH REPUBLIC

- **112** – All services (recommended if unsure or need English support)
- **155** – Ambulance / Emergency Medical Service
- **158** – Police of the Czech Republic
- **150** – Fire & Rescue Service
- **156** – Municipal (City) Police (for non-urgent matters)

From abroad, use country code: +420 (e.g., +420 112)

NEAREST 24/7 HOSPITAL IN PILSEN

University Hospital Pilsen – Bory

Address: Edvarda Beneše 1128/13, 301 00 Plzeň – Bory

Main Phone: +420 377 401 111

Emergency Services:

- **24/7 emergency department for adults**, Includes ambulances, internal medicine, ENT, pulmonary, urology, radiology, surgery, and more

EVENT PROGRAM

THURSDAY

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM | Group City Tour

Meeting point: in front of the Tourist Information Centre, Main Square.

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Registration Opens

Check-in for all attendees.

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM | Opening Session

Welcome & First Round of Presentations.

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Refreshments Break & Clay Market

Enjoy snacks, browse the Clay Market, and join our Meet & Greet.

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM | Second Presentation Session

Talks continue.

FRIDAY

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM | Morning Class Session

All classes begin – first part.

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM | Group Lunch Breaks

Lunch breaks are scheduled in waves by group. Each group will have around 30–40 minutes to eat, relax, and recharge before the second class session begins.

2:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Afternoon Class Session

Classes continue – second part.

SATURDAY

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM | Morning Class Session

All classes begin – first part.

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM | Group Lunch Breaks

Lunch breaks are scheduled in waves by group. Each group will have around 30–40 minutes to eat, relax, and recharge before the second class session begins.

2:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Afternoon Class Session

Classes continue – second part.

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM | Evening Celebration

Party time! Join us for a cheerful gathering with giveaways, a thank you to our amazing teachers, and a few surprises.

SUNDAY

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM | Morning Class Session

All classes begin – first part.

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM | Group Lunch Breaks

Lunch breaks are scheduled in waves by group. Each group will have around 30–40 minutes to eat, relax, and recharge before the second class session begins.

2:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Afternoon Class Session

Classes continue – second part.

We'll wrap up the weekend, share final moments together, and say our goodbyes.

TRAVEL & EXPLORE

YOUR GUIDE TO PRAGUE & PILSEN

Whether you're arriving via Prague's Vaclav Havel Airport or traveling from the city center, we've gathered the best routes and tips for easy, budget-friendly travel to Pilsen.

Discover local transport, taxis, and apps like Bolt for seamless navigation.

ARRIVING AT PRAGUE AIRPORT

The nearest international airport is Václav Havel Airport Prague (PRG). It has two terminals:

- Terminal 1 – for non-Schengen flights (e.g., USA, UK)
- Terminal 2 – for Schengen area flights (most of Europe)

Once you arrive, you can travel to Pilsen by bus or train, depending on your plans.

HOW TO GET FROM PRAGUE TO PILSEN

Staying in Prague First? If you're planning to spend time in Prague before heading to Pilsen, we recommend taking **the train**:

- Trains leave from **Praha Hlavní nádraží (Main Train Station)**
- Travel to **Plzeň Hlavní nádraží (Pilsen Main Station)**
- Tickets available at: <https://www.cd.cz/en/>
- Travel time: **~1 hour 20 minutes**

GOING DIRECTLY FROM THE AIRPORT TO PILSEN?

BY BUS (Recommended for direct travel)

1. From the airport, take **bus no. 100** to **Zličín metro/bus terminal**
2. From Zličín, catch a **FlixBus** to **Plzeň (Pilsen)**
 - One-way fare: 5–12 EUR
 - Book tickets in advance at: <https://www.flixbus.com>
 - Travel time: approx. 1.5 hours

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VIDEO – AIRPORT TO CITY CENTER

Watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57WeRN0Nrb4&fbclid=IwAR2Mi6Bp1pAFCEiepgz-ej3R2xUPaTsTdm0QeCX90q4Pn_xr4dyh02ZTIIM

PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN PILSEN

Pilsen's public transport system includes trams, trolleybuses, and buses.

- **FOR EVENT ATTENDEES:** All registered attendees will receive a special wristband (bangle) upon arrival on Thursday morning. This wristband serves as a free public transport ticket in Pilsen from Thursday to Sunday.
- **IF YOU'RE NOT USING THE WRISTBAND:** You can still travel easily by buying a ticket on board. Use your credit card at the yellow ticket machines inside the vehicle (usually near the middle door).
- **MONEY EXCHANGE:** To find a reliable money exchange office in Pilsen: <https://www.visitpilsen.eu/exchange-offices/>

WHAT TO SEE IN PILSEN

More info:

- <https://www.visitpilsen.eu/>
- <https://www.turisturaj.cz/home-en>

Video guide: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LsR--wzKNc>

HISTORIC CENTER & MAIN SIGHTS

- Republic Square – *Heart of the Old Town*
- St. Bartholomew's Cathedral – *Tallest church tower in the Czech Republic (90 CZK to climb, daily 10:00–18:00)*
- Great & Old Synagogues – *Stunning Moorish-Romanesque architecture*
- Great & New Theatres – *Neo-Renaissance and modern stage architecture*
- Pilsen Historical Underground – *800m of medieval tunnels under the Old Town*
- Adolf Loos Interiors – *Modernist gems by world-famous architect:*
<https://www.adolfloosplzen.cz/en/tickets/>

BEER CULTURE

- Pilsner Urquell Brewery – *Book tours in English/German:*
<https://tickets.prazdroj.cz/prohlidka-pivovaru-plzensky-prazdroj>
- Brewery Museum & Souvenir Shop – *Located at the underground entrance*

MUSEUMS

- Museum of West Bohemia – *History, fine arts, rare arms, and an Art Nouveau library*
- More museums: https://www.visitpilsen.eu/sightseeing/pilsen-museums-and_galleries/

EXPLORE MORE:

- Monuments: <https://www.visitpilsen.eu/sightseeing/pilsen-old-town/>
- Museums: https://www.visitpilsen.eu/sightseeing/pilsen-museums-and_galleries/

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

Indulge in authentic Czech cuisine or savor modern culinary delights with our curated list of local favorites. From hearty goulash and svíčková (roast tenderloin) to asian, mexican, and vegan options, there's something for every palate.

Enjoy cozy cafés with freshly baked pastries or the perfect cup of coffee to recharge between sessions. <https://www.visitpilsen.eu/good-food-can-be-found-in-pilsen-absolutely/>

TRADITIONAL CZECH RESTAURANTS

- Na Parkánu – *Classic Czech dishes, perfect with Pilsner*
- U Salzmannů – *Pilsen's oldest pub, est. 1637*
- Lékárna – *Great view of the cathedral, known for its top-quality beer*
- Švejk Restaurant – *Traditional décor and hearty Czech food*
- Lokál Pod Divadlem – *Friendly pub with local humor and great beer*
- Plzeňka – *Famous for pork knuckle, schnitzel, and smoked ribs*

MODERN & FUSION OPTIONS

- Na Spilce – *Brewery restaurant with Czech classics and modern dishes*
- Pivstro – *Craft beers and creative global cuisine (veg-friendly)*
- Comix Kitchen & Bar – *Steaks, burgers, and comic-style décor*
- Štipec – *Casual bistro with street food-style wraps and loksha*

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

- Da Pietro – *Pizza Napoletana & Italian street food*
- Osteria Martinská – *Generous pizzas, homemade pasta, wine*
- Ganesh – *Indian and Nepalese dishes on Americká street*
- La Chica Casa Mexicana – *Burritos, enchiladas, and nachos*
- Homy Asia Fusion – *Sushi, Thai, and Vietnamese with cocktails*
- DELISH – *Juicy burgers, including meat-free options*

DELIVERY & TAKEAWAY

Order to your hotel using:

- <https://www.wolt.com>
- <https://www.foodora.cz/en/>

TOP CAFÉS

- Le Frenchie Café – *French-style brunch & pastries*
- Walter, The Fresh Bar, Stan Cakes – *Brunch & sweets*
- Orient Coffee, Cavino, Café Regner – *Specialty coffee*
- Kafe Smetanka, Schovaná kavárna, Šálek a Špunt, Chromá Liška – *Local favourites*

We can't wait to welcome you and share this amazing week filled with inspiration, creativity, and connection. Get ready to make memories that will last a lifetime, Polymer Week 2025 is going to be your highlight of the year!

If you have any questions or need assistance, our team is here for you every step of the way.

See you soon!

Yours
Polymer Week Team