



First steps in Prešov

guide for newcomers







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and places around it



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Office



Welcome Booklet

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BASIC PHRASES

| English | Slovak | Transcription |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Hello | Dobrý deň (formal) Ahoj (informal) | <i>doh-bree dyeň</i> <i>ah-hoy</i> |
| Goodbye / Bye | Dovidenia (formal) Čau (informal) | <i>doh-vee-deh-nyah</i> <i>chaw</i> |
| Please/Thank you | Prosím / Ďakujem | <i>pro-seem/</i> <i>dya-koo-yem</i> |
| Yes/No | Áno/Nie | <i>ah-no/nyeh</i> |
| Excuse me/Sorry | Prepáč(te) (formal) Pardon (informal) | <i>preh-patch-teh</i> |
| How are you? | Ako sa máš? (informal) Ako sa máte? (formal) | <i>ah-ko sa mash</i> <i>ah-ko sa mah-teh</i> |
| I'm fine, thank you | Mám sa dobre, ďakujem | <i>mahm sa doh-breh</i> <i>dya-koo-yem</i> |

| English | Slovak | Transcription |
|--|---|---|
| Have a good day! | Majte sa! | <i>my-teh sa</i> |
| What is your name? | Ako sa voláš? (informal) Ako sa voláte? (formal) | <i>ah-ko sa vo-lash/ ah-ko sa vo-lah-teh</i> |
| My name is... | Volám sa... | <i>vo-lahm sa...</i> |
| I don't understand | Nerozumiem | <i>neh-ro-zoo-myehm</i> |
| Do you speak English? | Hovoríte po anglicky? | <i>ho-vo-ree-teh po ang-lits-kee</i> |
| I don't speak Slovak | Nehovorím po slovensky | <i>neh-ho-vo-reem po slo-ven-skee</i> |
| How much is this?/ Can you help me? | Koľko to stojí?/ Môžete mi pomôcť? | <i>kol-ko to stoy-yee/ mwoh-zhe-teh mee po-mots</i> |

If you're interested in continuing your Slovak language studies, several language schools in Prešov offer excellent opportunities:

- 
The University of Prešov Slovak language courses for international students:
 Basic Slovak Language Course (non-Slavic language speakers); course code: 3KLV/MXVB/24
 Slovak for Foreigners (for speakers of other Slavic languages); course code: 1ISMK/SLOCU/15
- 
Jazyková škola Prešov
- 
Language School VaV Akademy

PREŠOV AND PLACES AROUND IT

1. Historic Centre of Prešov

- **What to See:** Stroll along Hlavná Ulica (Main Street) to admire Gothic and Baroque architecture, including the Cathedral of St. Nicholas and Klobušických Palace.
- **Cost:** Free to explore; some sites may have small entry fees (around €2–€5).
- **Highlights:** Outdoor seating in summer, historic monuments, and cozy cafes.



2. Saint Nicholas Concathedral

- **What to See:** A stunning Gothic cathedral with rich history and intricate interiors. For a small fee, you can go up the Concathedral's tower.

3. Kapušany castle

- **What to See:** Explore the ruins of this medieval fortress, perched atop a hill with stunning panoramic views. The castle features remnants of defensive walls, towers, and historical structures that tell the story of its past.
- **Cost:** Free to visit; a small fee (€1 for adults, €0.50 for children over 10 and seniors) applies for access to the lookout tower.



4. Šariš Castle

- **What to See:** Explore the ruins of this medieval castle with panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.
- **Cost:** €2 entrance to the castle and €2 entrance to the tower

5. Orthodox Synagogue and Museum

- **What to See:** A beautifully preserved synagogue with colorful paintings and historical exhibits.
- **Cost:** Entrance fee around €5.



6. Alexander Nevski Orthodox Cathedral

- **What to See:** A beautiful Orthodox church with a peaceful atmosphere and unique architecture.

7. Salt museum in Solivar

- **What to See:** Learn about the history of salt mining in this fascinating museum.
- **Cost:** Entrance fee is around €5.



8. Košice old town

- **What to See:** Discover Slovakia's second-largest city with its charming old town, St. Elisabeth Cathedral, and lively atmosphere.

BE SURE TO CHECK THE ENTRANCE FEE JUST TO BE SURE

LEISURE TIME

CAFÉS THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS



ČUKOLÁDA

Renowned for its exquisite selection of chocolates and desserts, this café provides a cozy atmosphere perfect for indulging in sweet treats.

Saint Coffee in Prešov is a popular café known for its high-quality coffee and delicious cinnamon rolls (sinnabons). The café has a cozy atmosphere and is highly rated by customers.



SAINT COFFEE



L'APERITIVO PREŠOV

Combines the charm of a café with the allure of a wine bar, offering a variety of beverages and light bites in a stylish setting.

SLOVAK DISHES, PIZZERIAS AND ETC.

- Šarišská Chiža
- Gazda
- Gazdovská stodola



- Pomodoro
- Pizza BIX
- Pizzeria & Restaurant GiovanNI

In your free time in Prešov, you can enjoy a walk through the historic city center, visit Calvary Hill and the Šariš Castle ruins or explore local museums and galleries. For relaxation, the eco-park, Plaza Beach Solivar resort and the famous Šariš brewery are great options.



FESTIVALS



Pivný festival

The festival takes place at the Jazdecký Areál in Prešov, located at Jazdecká 1/a. It usually runs during the summer, with dates varying each year.

It's the **largest and longest beer festival in Slovakia**, offering **over 100 types of beer**, including craft brews, flavored ciders, and non-alcoholic options;

Visitors can enjoy live music, beer pong tournaments, pub quizzes, and even a chill-out zone with bean bags;

The Prešovský Jarmok

also known as the **Trojičný Jarmok**, is a traditional fair that brings the heart of Prešov to life with its vibrant atmosphere. The fair takes place on Hlavná Ulica (Main Street) in Prešov. **This event is a celebration of folk culture, crafts, and gastronomy**, featuring nearly 100 stalls offering handmade goods, **traditional Slovak dishes**, and artisanal products; Visitors can enjoy live music, folk performances, and a variety of family-friendly activities, including **horse-drawn carriage rides**;



The Dobrý Festival

The festival takes place at the Natural Swimming Pool Delňa, located at Jelšová 25, Prešov. The next event is scheduled for June 13th to June 14th. The festival features **performances by renowned Slovak and international artists across various music genres**; It includes art exhibitions, workshops, and activities for all age groups, making it a family-friendly event; The festival promotes sustainability and eco-friendly practices, with initiatives to reduce waste and support local businesses.

The Advent and Christmas Markets in Prešov

Those are a magical celebration of the holiday season, offering a warm and festive atmosphere. The markets are held on **Hlavná Ulica (Main Street) in the historic center of Prešov**.

Time: from November 25th to December 23rd, with additional festivities from December 26th to December 31st. The markets feature over 90 stalls selling handmade gifts, traditional Slovak treats like trdelníky, roasted chestnuts, and honey wine (medovina);

Visitors can enjoy live performances by local artists, caroling, and cultural programs that add to the festive spirit;



The Fašiangy Carnival in Prešov

That Carnival is a lively **celebration of Slovak traditions, filled with music, dance, and colorful costumes**. The carnival takes place in the historic center of Prešov, primarily on Hlavná Ulica (Main Street).

The festivities include a folklore parade featuring performances by local groups. The event culminates in a street carnival with live music, and traditional Slovak food like zabijačka specialties.

Vinobranie in Prešov

Vinobranie is a local wine festival held in late September during the grape harvest. It features **wine tastings, traditional food, music**, and family-friendly activities like grape stomping and winemaking workshops.



BUDDIES

- **Who are the buddies?**

They are Prešov University students that help international students with getting comfortable in Prešov **voluntarily**. Your buddy may assist you with:

1. Solving problems with your studies and mobility organization as well as with your accommodation in the dormitory
2. Getting acquainted with the city
3. Visiting a Slovak doctor

Etc.

Attention!

A buddy is also a **student**. That makes your communication **informal** and gives you more **opportunities** to make international friends.

- **How do I get a buddy?**

You will be assigned a buddy **before or right after your arrival** in Prešov. You **do not** need to request it.

- **What if I don't have a buddy?**

If you received **no** message from a buddy, you may contact Welcome Office (dormitory ground floor, to the right from the entrance). Afterwards, you will be assigned a buddy soon.

P.S. Please, be sure to keep the communication respectful.

- **Are there any ESN (Erasmus Student Network) events going on?**

Yes, the Buddies team **organizes events** for international students. You will be informed about them in **the WhatsApp community** (your **Buddy will send** you the joining link).

WELCOME OFFICE

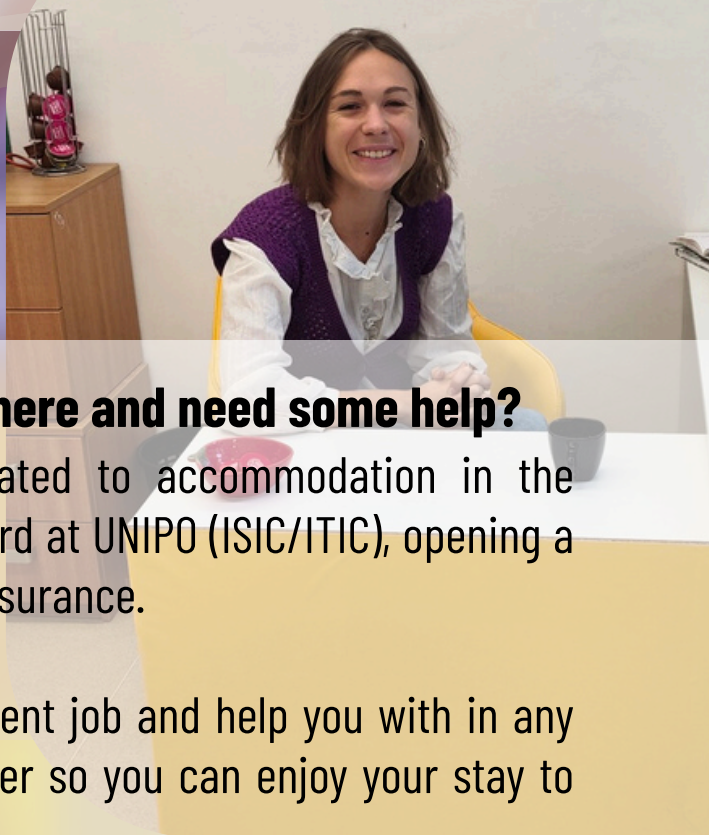
What do we do ?

The Welcome Office team is here to **inform and support foreign students, researchers, and teachers**, making it easier for them to settle in Prešov and integrate into university life.

The Welcome Office is located at the « New dormitory ». You will find us at the entrance of the building, on the right.

Opening hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 8:30 – 15:00
- Thursday: 8:30 – 17:00



New in Prešov? Or already studying here and need some help?

We can assist you with procedures related to accommodation in the dormitory, obtaining a Student/Teacher card at UNIPO (ISIC/ITIC), opening a bank account, and registering for health insurance.

We can also support you in finding a student job and help you with in any other matters to make your daily life easier so you can enjoy your stay to the fullest!

Contact:

 +421 915 915 208

 welcomeoffice@unipo.sk



HEALTH & DOCTORS

- If you're experiencing **health issues** and need to see a doctor, don't worry – help is nearby.

A general practitioner is available in the new dormitory (Nový internát), offering convenient access to medical care right on campus.

We recommend **asking your buddy to go with you**, both to show you the way and to assist with any language barriers during the appointment.

The cost of a doctor's visit is €15.

Also, in case of a medical emergency, you can call the Slovak emergency services by dialing **112** (general emergencies) or **155** (ambulance directly).

- **Emergency services in Slovakia** are reliable and well-equipped. The staff may not always speak fluent English, so having someone who speaks Slovak with you can be helpful.
- **Please, make sure your insurance works in Slovakia!**

STAY SAFE AND DON'T HESITATE TO ASK FOR HELP IF YOU NEED IT!

YOUR DAILY DIGITAL HELPERS AT THE UNIVERSITY



How does ISIC work?

ISIC (International Student Identity Card) is a globally recognized student card that provides **discounts and benefits** in various areas, including travel, entertainment, and shopping. To use your ISIC, simply present it at participating businesses, online or in-store, to receive student discounts. Many airlines, museums, restaurants, and public transport services offer special rates for ISIC holders. You can also access digital benefits through the **ISIC app**, where you can check your card's validity and browse available discounts. Always check if a location accepts ISIC before making a purchase to maximize your savings.

Make sure to **activate** your ISIC card at the university's terminal before using it! You can find it at the Faculty of Arts and at the old dormitory.

HOW DOES MAIS WORK?

1. What is MAIS?

MAIS (Modular Academic Information System) is your go-to platform for managing your studies, including course registration, exam scheduling, and accessing academic records.

GUIDE TO USING MAIS

➔ Step 1: Logging in

- 1) Visit [MAIS - Student - University of Presov](#);
- 2) Log in with the credential provided by the university (username and password).

➔ Step 2: Navigating the Dashboard

Once logged in you'll see a dashboard where you can:

- Check updates: Notifications about exams, deadlines, or important university announcements;
- View Timetable: Access your class schedules and room details.

➔ Step 3: Course Registration

- 1) Go to the Courses & Enrollment tab;
- 2) Select the subjects you want to enroll in. Each subject lists prerequisites, credits, and schedules;
- 3) Confirm registration and ensure it's approved before classes begin.

➔ Step 4: Exam Registration

- 1) Navigate to the Examinations section;
- 2) Choose your subject and pick an available exam slot;
- 3) Double-check the location, date, and time of the exam.

➔ Step 5: Academic Records

- Use the Grades tab to view your results after exams;
- Access transcripts and other academic documents under the Records section.

HOW DOES PUBLIC TRANSPORT WORK?

Public transport in Prešov is reliable and easy to use. The city is served by buses and trolleybuses operated by **DPMP (Dopravný podnik mesta Prešov)**. Services usually run **from early morning (around 5 a.m.) to late at night (around 11 p.m.)**, with **night buses** also available. Tickets can be bought at kiosks, ticket machines, or through a mobile app or SMS. Some stops are on request, so be sure to press the stop button or signal the driver. For routes and schedules, visit www.dpmp.sk or imhd.sk.

You can use a **discount** on public transport only **with valid ISIC** and if you activate it in the **Ubian** app.



Ticket prices



HOW DO IDEME VLAKOM AND UBIAN WORK?

Ideme vlakom/Cestovné poriadky CP

Those are is a mobile apps and online platforms for planning train journeys in Slovakia.

Features:

- Check train schedules and connections
- Buy tickets online (including discounts and reservations)
- Store electronic tickets in the app
- Track train delays or platform changes

To use it: download the app, register (optional), add your ZSSK card (that you can get at the train station with your ISIC) , search for your route, select a train, and purchase a ticket with card or other payment options.

Remember: your ticket is **not** valid, if you **don't have your ISIC card** with you.

P.S. A student can get free train tickets, but only in case they have ISIC and ZSSK card (preukaz študenta)

Ubian

Ubian is a travel app for public transport across Slovakia. It combines information from many regional and city transport providers.

Features:

- Plan your journey using buses, trams, trains, and trolleybuses
- Check real-time departures and delays
- Buy and store electronic tickets
- Register your transport card for balance and validity info
- Register your ISIC for discounted tickets

Ubian works in cities like Bratislava, Košice, Prešov, and many others. To activate your student discount, you need to register in the app, add the number of your ISIC, pay 3,69 € by SMS or by card and then put your ISIC to the terminal at the university.

Dormitory schedule

Nový Internát - 17. novembra 11

- **When is my dorm open?**

All the dormitories of the Prešov University in Prešov are open everyday **from 5am (5:00) until 12am (24:00)**. At night you may enter or exit the building **only from -:00 till -:15 each hour (12am - 5am/24:00 - 4:00)**

- **When is the Accommodation department (ubytovacie oddelenie) open?**

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Monday | 8:30 - 11:30 | 12:30 - 14:00 |
| Tuesday | 8:30 - 11:30 | 12:30 - 14:00 |
| Wednesday | 8:30 - 11:30 | 12:30 - 14:00 |
| Thursday | 8:30 - 11:30 | - |
| Friday | 8:30 - 11:30 | - |

- **How do I get to the Accommodation department?**

The department is located in the **Old Dormitory** (17 novembra 13, the yellow building right next to your dormitory entrance), to the left from the entrance (a corridor perpendicular to the one leading to double glass door entrance.)

P.S. **Not** all the Accommodation department workers speak English, so you might **ask your Buddy** for help in the communicating with them.

FINANCES

- **Cash or card?**

In most shops and cafés card payment is available and is much easier to do. However, it is better to have some amount of cash for cases, when card payment is not possible (sometimes that happens at the doctor's, in small shops etc.).

Also, you'll often need mince when going by bus: many ticket machines have no card payment option

- **Does my card work in Slovakia?**

Most bank cards from EU and countries out of it **work** in Slovakia. However, in some individual cases you may need to pay **a fee** set by your bank for certain transaction types.

- **Do I need a Slovak bank card?**

In case circumstances demand it, you may get yourself a Slovak bank card. **Tatra Banka** is the most popular bank among students. It has great conditions and a **40 Eur bonus** for new student clients. The nearest Tatra Banka office is on the **1st floor in Novum**.

Alternatively, you may also get a card of an another bank: **mBank, VÚB Banka, Priama banka, Slovenská sporiteľňa, 365.bank** etc.

P.S. You may ask your Buddy to assist you in registering and getting your card.





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guide for newcomers

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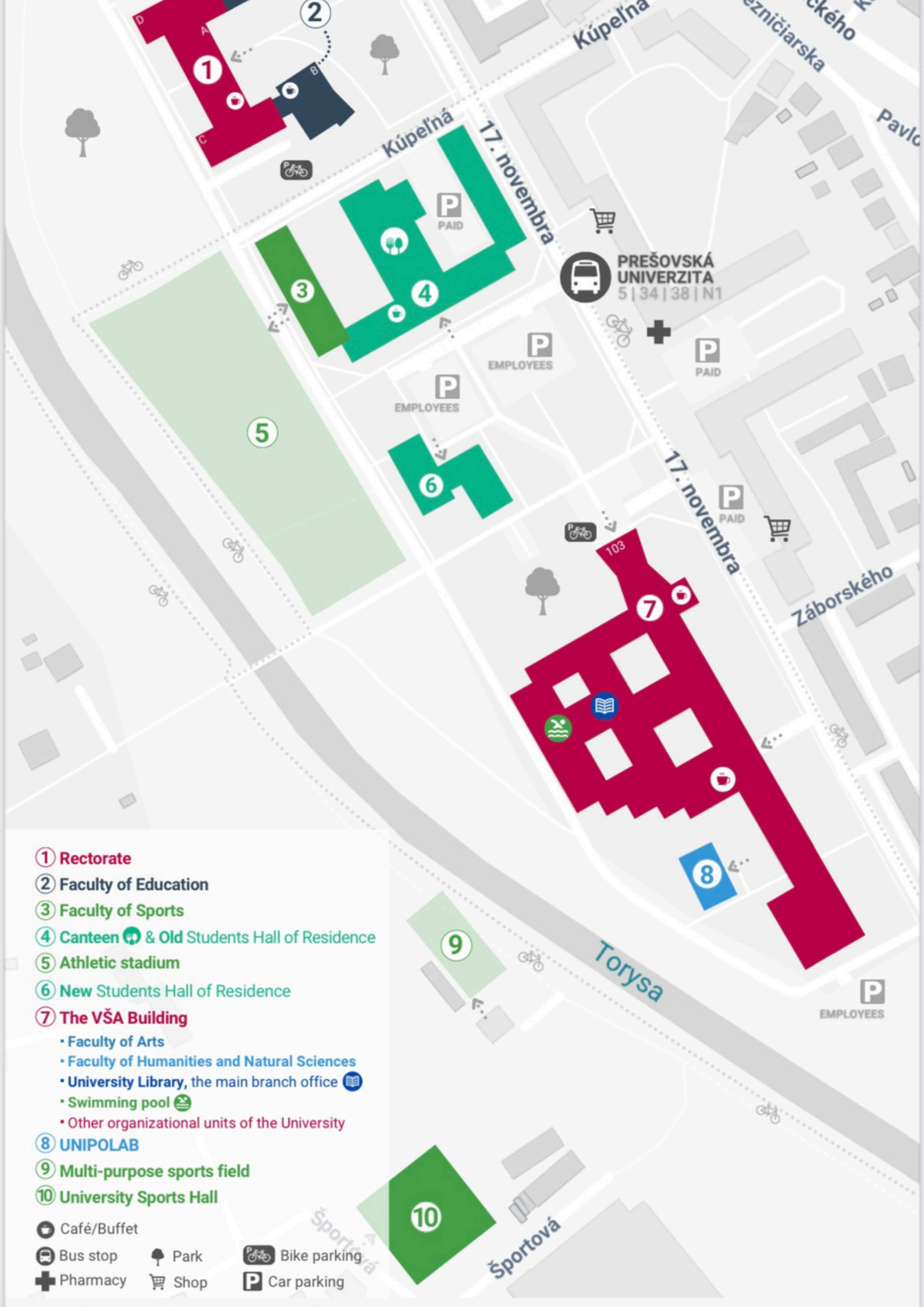
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- ① Rectorate
- ② Faculty of Education
- ③ Faculty of Sports
- ④ Canteen ☺ & Old Students Hall of Residence
- ⑤ Athletic stadium
- ⑥ New Students Hall of Residence
- ⑦ The VŠA Building
 - Faculty of Arts
 - Faculty of Humanities and Natural Sciences
 - University Library, the main branch office 📖
 - Swimming pool 🏊
 - Other organizational units of the University
- ⑧ UNIPOLAB
- ⑨ Multi-purpose sports field
- ⑩ University Sports Hall

- ☺ Café/Buffer
- 🚌 Bus stop
- ☒ Pharmacy
- 🌳 Park
- 🛒 Shop
- 🚲 Bike parking
- 🅑 Car parking