



Three weeks ago I was returning from a business trip in Krakow in Poland. It was a Friday and I was supposed to be back in London for my sister's wedding the following day. Ironically, I was originally going to come back on the Thursday because my Friday meeting had been cancelled, but I thought it would be more relaxing to stick to my original schedule. What a mistake! Overnight, it snowed very heavily and I woke to a thick blanket of snow. I telephoned the airport immediately to see what the situation was. They told me that no flights would be taking off until the morning after at the earliest.

At that point I went into military mode. My only concern was how I was going to get back in time for the wedding. What were my options? Obviously, I couldn't hire a car. It was an eighteen-hour drive to the UK even in good conditions. I went online and researched the weather situation at other airports. Warsaw, Poznań and Berlin all had the same problems. Knowing that the cheaper airlines flew to more obscure places, I checked their websites. Luckily, Ryanair had a flight that evening from Ostrava to London. Ostrava was only 160 kilometres away and, amazingly, the flight was only £20. With my heart in my mouth, I picked up the phone and called Ostrava airport. Yes, flights were operating as normal and the road to the airport was clear.

I rang hotel reception and asked them to find a taxi that could take me to Ostrava. Imagine my joy when they said that two other people had made the same request and that a taxi would be coming in half an hour. Better still, we could share the cost. Not only was I going to get home in time, but I would have company on the journey too.

QUOTE