Grammatical genders in the Czech language

The Czech language, just like German, French, Spanish, or Russian, has <u>three grammatical genders</u>, but there is nothing inherently male about the "masculine" nouns or female about the "feminine" nouns. It is not logical, it is just something you have to learn. However, there are some rules, or rather guidelines, how to recognize what gender a noun has (if you see it in the basic dictionary form):

Neuter nouns end in:

- **-o**: auto (car), okno (window), město (town)
- **-í:** náměstí (town square), nádraží (station), pondělí (Monday)
- **-e**: kuře (chicken), moře (sea), kotě (kitten), letiště (airport)

Feminine nouns end in:

- **-a**: voda (water), Praha (the Czech capital), kniha (book)
- **-e**: restaurace (restaurant), ulice (street), židle (chair)
- **-consonant**: tramvaj (tram), postel (bed), skříň (cupboard, wardrobe)
- **-í**: rarely (e.g. mluvčí = spokeswoman)

Masculine animate nouns (people and animals) end in:

- **-consonant**: student (student), řidič (driver)
- **-e**: soudce (judge), poradce (counsellor, advisor)
- **-a**: fotbalista (football player), pianista (piano player), turista (turist)
  <u>COMPARE</u>: fotbalistka, pianistka, turistka (feminine nouns)
- **-í**: rarely (e.g. mluvčí = spokesman)

Masculine inanimate nouns (things) end in:

- **-consonant**: dům (house), stůl (table), chléb (bread)
- **-a** – exceptionally – REMEMBER: chleba (bread – colloquially)