

NEWSLETTER

for foreign offices

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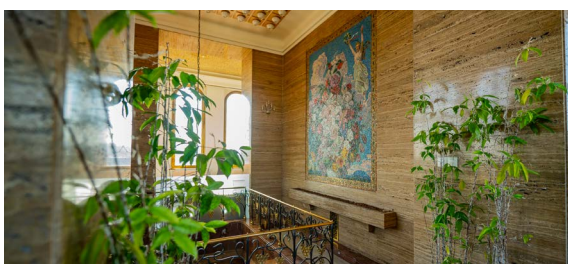
TRADE NEWS

Hotels & Restaurants

Accor to open a Swissôtel in Mariánské Lázně

The **Accor** hotel group has signed a contract to manage the new five-star **Swissôtel Mariánské Lázně Resort & Spa**. The 130-room hotel, which will be created by merging five buildings, is expected to welcome its first guests in **2024**. Source: Accor

The Czech Inn Hotels chain takes over Hotel International



Once the most luxurious hotel in Czechoslovakia, **Prague's Hotel International**, is being **taken over by the Czech hotel chain Czech Inn Hotels**. The chain takes the hotel over **from the international Mozart Hotel Group**. Hotel International was built between 1952 and 1956 in the style of socialist realism. The building was originally supposed to serve as accommodation for soldiers, but eventually plans were changed and it became a luxury grand hotel. In the 1950s, it was the most luxurious hotel in Czechoslovakia. Currently, the hotel offers a total of 278 rooms, 14 conference rooms with a total capacity of 1,200 people, as well as spaces for private social events. The hotel also includes restaurants, bars and a fitness center. Source: Czech Inn Hotels

Transportation

EasyJet to open its twelfth route from Prague

The British airline **easyJet** will open another connection **from Prague**, returning to the route **to Lyon**, France. The line will be in operation from **Sept. 4, 2023, twice a week**, on Mondays and Fridays. Source: Prague Airport

Direct route Prague Taipei

Effective **18 July 2023**, **Prague Airport** will have a **direct connection** with the Taiwanese capital of **Taipei**. The direct route from the Taoyuan International Airport to Václav Havel Airport Prague will be operated **twice a week**. **China Airlines** will use the Airbus A350-900s aircraft at the route. More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/twice-weekly-direct-flights-vaclav-havel-airport-prague-taiwan-effective-july>

Ryanair to offer extensive summer season flight schedule, including flights to Rimini or Skiathos



This summer season, **Ryanair** is offering flights **to four new destinations** from Prague. Ryanair will offer flights to **Gdansk, Rimini, Seville and Skiathos**, and will service its other

fifteen destinations more often than in summer last year. The carrier expects a 21% increase in the number of flights compared to last summer season. More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/ryanair-offer-most-extensive-summer-season-flight-schedule-including-example-rimini-and-skiathos>

Direct flights from Prague to 152 destinations worldwide



Within the **summer flight schedule**, the **Vaclav Havel Airport Prague** offers **direct flights to 152 destinations worldwide** including two new long-haul routes to Seoul and Taiwan and nine new connections to popular holiday destinations. On nearly 40 routes, number of frequencies will be increased compared to summer last year. Several new airlines will fly from the Prague Airport this summer, such as Moldova's Air Moldova and FlyOne, China Airlines and Korean Air, Cyprus Airways, the Salam Air of Oman, and Icelandair. More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/direct-flights-prague-152-destinations-worldwide-summer-schedule-comes-effect>

Species-rich meadows and restored field boundaries. Prague Airport launches biodiversity support Program

Starting this year, **Prague Airport** systematically **supports biodiversity in**

its vicinity through a new **Biodiversity program**. Within its framework, it will be possible to apply for fundings of projects aimed at strengthening species diversity and ecological stability as well as increasing natural water retention and accelerated regeneration of urbanised landscapes. **Prague Airport has allocated CZK two million to fund the program**, applicants can receive up to 300 thousand crowns for all their projects combined. **Deadline for applications is May 31, 2023**. To ensure air traffic safety, the program also defines non-supported areas and measures. These include in particular large bodies of water, planting of trees and introduction of other features attractive to birds in the runway corridors and in the immediate vicinity of the airport. More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/species-rich-meadows-and-restored-field-boundaries-prague-airport-launches-biodiversity-support>

Data & Research

Almost as many people as before the pandemic travel to the Czech Republic from the Baltics, a fair in Vilnius, Lithuania, helped to increase interest

Only 549 fewer **tourists from the Baltics** came to the Czech Republic last year compared to 2019. While in **2022**, **118,877** guests from Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia visited Czechia, before the coronavirus pandemic it was 119,426. The appetite for travel is growing worldwide and the CzechTourism agency presents Czechia using all information and communication tools. At the **Adventur tourism trade fair in Lithuania**, the Czech spa industry and wellness in particular were presented. Source: CzechTourism

People

The Augustine restaurant appoints new chef



Jan Horák has been appointed the **new chef** at the **Augustine** restaurant in the Prague's quarter of Lesser Town. Horák spent most of his professional life abroad, cooking in luxury hotels and Michelin-starred restaurants, such as Restaurant Jordnær in Copenhagen, Restaurant Cracco in Milan and Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin. The Augustine restaurant belongs to the luxurious Prague hotel of the same name. Source: Augustine Hotel

PRODUCT NEWS

Cities & Regions

Prague

The Prague Planetarium to undergo major renovation

The **Prague Planetarium** is awaiting a major **reconstruction** worth up to CZK



300 million to **replace its projection system** that has reached the end of its service life. The system will be replaced by the latest technology, which will make the Prague planetarium a world-class facility. **The planetarium will close on May 14, 2023 and is scheduled to reopen next spring.** Source: Planetarium Prague

The Karlovy Vary region

The Imperial Spa in Karlovy Vary to reopen in June



In the second half of **June** this year, the **Imperial Spa in Karlovy Vary** will **open** to public after a thorough reconstruction. The revitalization of the national cultural monument started in 2019 and is worth over CZK 1.4 billion. As of this summer, all the representative spaces of the Imperial Spa will be open to public, be it the Zander Hall, the richly decorated relaxation salons or the unique imperial bathroom. The Imperial Spa will be **open all year round, seven days**

a week, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. More at <https://www.cisarskelazne.cz/vize/>

The Central Bohemia region

Open day at Čáslav Airport



After four years, the **Open Day of the 21st Tactical Air Force Base Čáslav** will be held again. This traditional event, which did not take place in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is aimed at presenting not only the Čáslav base, but also to present other participating units of the Czech Armed forces. This year's Open Day will take place on **May 20, 2023**. In addition to an extensive program of ground demonstrations and presentations of all squadrons of the 21st Air Force Base, visitors will also enjoy flight display. The program will also include demonstrations from civil aviation, such as the performance of **aerobatic pilot Martin Šonka**. The Open Day will be designed to keep also families with children entertained throughout the day, admission to the event is free. More at <https://afbcaslav.army.cz/open-day-caslav-2023-0>

The South Moravian region

The Mikulov Theatre Festival: Moravian Parnassus of Johann Georg Gettner 2023

This year's festival of the baroque theater **Moravian Parnassus of Johann**



Georg Gettner will take place in **Mikulov on July 28 and 29**. The festival was established in 2013 and recalls the city's rich baroque theater history and highlights the time when Mikulov was one of the important Central European theater centers with a flourishing castle and, thanks to the Piarists, a theater culture. It is dedicated to Johann Georg Gettner, a local native and one of the important figures of the European baroque theatre. Source: City of Mikulov

Open cellars



In the spring, many **winemakers open their cellars** and organize tastings of their wines. On **April 22-23**, the **Festival of Open Cellars - Spring in the Mikulov area** will take place, when wine cellars in the municipalities of Mikulov, Březí and Dolní Dunajovice will be open. Around thirty of the region's best winemakers will open their cellars. In the village of **Perná**, winemakers will present their wines on **April 15 and 16**, **Pavlov** will open its wine cellars on **April 29**, and a total of fifteen wine cellars will open in **Horní Věstonice and Dolní Věstonice on June 10**.

Culture

Prague Quadrennial 2023



The **fifteenth edition of PQ** will take place from **June 8 to June 18, 2023**. The main exhibitions (Exhibition of Countries and Regions and Student Exhibition) make up the pivotal program of the event and present the most distinctive works of contemporary scenography under the curatorial supervision of the participating countries and regions. The venue will be the **Holešovice Market**, a former slaughterhouse built at the end of the 19th century, which has served mainly as a marketplace since the 1980s, and recently evolved into one of the strongest cultural centers of the Prague 7 district. The Exhibition of Countries and Regions will be located in the indoor halls, while the Student Exhibition will be for the first time presented in the open sky location of the market square. Apart from the countries and regions of Europe, Asia or North and South America, traditionally participating in the main exhibitions, countries of the Middle East (e.g. Turkey, Lebanon or for the first time ever, the United Arab Emirates) and Africa will present themselves at PQ 2023. Official representations of Russia and Belarus were excluded from the main exhibitions of PQ 2023. The exhibitory program sections will be situated in the **Trade Fair Palace of the National Gallery Prague**. The educational

program will be once again hosted by the **Theatre Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts (DAMU)**. More at <https://pq.cz/pq-2023-info/>

The Great Little Masters: Aldegrever, Beham, Pencz and Solis



In the first half of the 16th century, graphic art began to flourish especially in the south of Germany with the emergence of a generation of outstanding engravers of the Late Renaissance. Among them was a specific group known as the **Little Masters**, namely **Georg Pencz, the Barthel and Sebald Beham brothers and Heinrich Aldegrever**, as well as **Virgil Solis** and others. Although differing in style, they had in common the small size of their prints, which tends to be regarded as the main reason for their collective name. Many were followers and students of Albrecht Dürer, and the term Little Masters was also believed to suggest that despite their mastery they did not match his artistic grandeur.

The exhibition in the Schwarzenberg Palace presents a **selection of engravings and woodcuts from the superb and fairly large collection of graphic art by the Little Masters, housed in the National Gallery's Collection of Prints and Drawings**. Schwarzenberg Palace, Prague, through July 9, 2023. More at <https://www.ngprague.cz/en/event/3604/the-great-little-masters-aldegrever-beham-pencz-and-solis>

České Budějovice and Broumov compete for the title of European Capital of Culture 2028

It should be known this summer which Czech city will become the **European Capital of Culture in 2028**. The city that receives the title will have the chance to present its cultural life and development to Europe throughout the year. The European Union grants the title of European Capital of Culture for one year to one or more municipalities with the aim of raising international awareness of the award-winning city through culture. Prague became the first Czech city to receive the award in 2000, and five years later Pilsen won the title. For the year 2028, Brno, Broumov, České Budějovice and Liberec were shortlisted. **Broumov and České Budějovice became the advancing finalists.**

Broumov

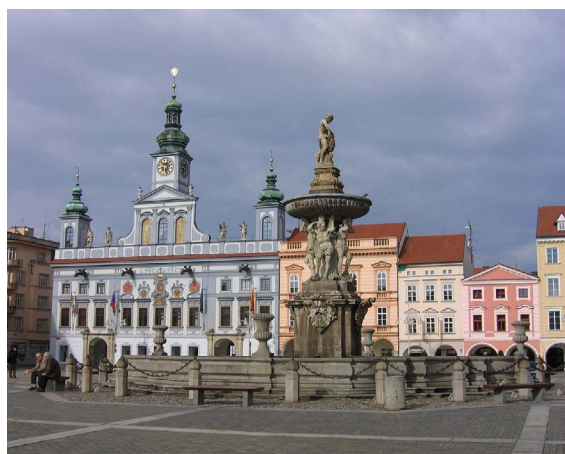


As **the smallest candidate in history**, the town of 7,000 succeeded with its **concept of Creative Pilgrimage**, the basis of which is the linking of nature and culture. **Slow cultural tourism** too is one of the basic pillars on which Broumov's candidacy is based. This global trend is based on a sustainable and gentle approach to the landscape and the involvement of local resources so that tourism benefits the local population and does not plunder the nature.

České Budějovice



The candidacy strategy of **České Budějovice** can be summarized under the term **(PERMA)CULTURE**. In the original meaning of the word, permaculture is a way of treating nature (water, air, forests), your surroundings (home, school, workplace) and other people in such a way that it is beneficial for everyone in the long term and does not harm anyone. The concept originates from **agriculture**, but can easily be **applied to other fields – such as architecture, education, community, planning, and even art.**



In 2028, a total of **three cities** will receive the title of European Capital of Culture: **one in the Czech Republic, the second in France, and the third in an EFTA/EEA country, a candidate country or a potential candidate country for EU membership.**

The Kutná Hora Illumination



The Kutná Hora Illumination, depicting silver mining and processing in Kutná Hora, is a title page (frontispiece) that was cut out of a now unknown choir book. Until 2009, the illumination was only known to an expert audience in the form of a black-and-white reproduction first published in 1929. Despite the fact that the illumination was never exhibited in the years that followed, art historians have always considered it one of the most significant illuminations to have been created north of the Alps. It has always attracted attention, not only because of its large size but also because of its secular theme, which was unusual in late **15th-century** artistic production. **GASK**, Kutná Hora, April 1 – Oct. 30, 2023. More at <https://gask.art/exhibition/the-kutna-hora-illumination/>

CORPORATE

News from the CzechTourism agency

The National Team of Chefs and Pastry Chefs won two golds and a silver at the Global Chefs Challenge



In the **semi-final European round** of the international cooking competition **Global Chefs Challenge** held in February in Rimini, Italy, the **National Team of Chefs and Pastry Chefs of the AKC CR**, whose partner again was the **Czech Specials project**, won **three medals**. **Lukáš Čížek and Adam Tišer** won the gold medal in the **Global Chefs Challenge** category and **Anna Marvanová and Magdalena Murínová** won the silver medal in the **Global Pastry Chefs Challenge** category. **Hana Budková** won a gold medal in the **Global Young Chefs Challenge** category and **advanced to the Global Chefs finals** to be held during the 2024 Worldchefs Congress & Expo in Singapore in October 2024. Full results at <https://worldchefs.org/results-are-in-for-worldchefs-european-grand-prix/>