

NEWSLETTER

for foreign offices

February 2023



Panská rock, Lusitanian Mountains

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TRADE NEWS

Hotels & Restaurants

PYTLOUN HOTELS opened new restaurant on Wenceslas Square



The Czech hotel chain **PYTLOUN HOTELS** has opened its new **Talír (Plate) restaurant** on the ground floor of the **Pytloun Boutique Hotel Prague** on Wenceslas Square. The restaurant has 130 seats on two floors open to a common area with a direct view of the Wenceslas Square and is open every day from 7:00 a.m. when breakfast is served. After 10 p.m., the restaurant turns into a stylish bar. Source: PYTLOUN HOTELS

Transportation

Korean Air to resume its Prague – Seoul flights



As of **March 27, 2023**, **Prague Airport** will once again offer **direct flights to Seoul** provided by **Korean Air**. This regular service was last in operation in March 2020. The route will be operated **three times a week**, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, with the option of increasing the frequency to four weekly flights during the summer season depending on the demand. Passengers will fly aboard Boeing 777-300ERs aircraft with 291 seats (64 in Business Class, 227 in Economy Class). More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/korean-air-re-launch-its-prague-seoul-connection>

Pardubice Airport recorded 83,000 passengers last year



The **Pardubice Airport** recorded some **83,000 passengers last year**, 2,000 more than in 2021. In the summer, number of flights to seaside destinations increased, with most passengers using the **Smartwings** airline.

Source: East Bohemian Airport

Ryanair announces new route from Brno to Milan

The low-cost carrier **Ryanair** announced a new route from **Brno-Tuřany to Milan Bergamo**, which will operate twice weekly from April as part of its **Summer 2023 schedule**. Source: Ryanair

Smartwings transported 5.2 million passengers last year

Last year, the **Smartwings** airline transported **5.2 million passengers** on its regular routes and charter flights, more than twice the 2021 2.5 million. Last year, Smartwings operated flights from Czechia and from its bases in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, France and the Canary Islands. The company transported another **849,000 passengers** on board its planes on flights operated by other carriers. Source: Smartwings

SunExpress will fly from Prague to Antalya every day in summer



The low-cost carrier **SunExpress** plans to fly **between Prague and the Turkish Riviera every day during the summer season**. The connection is now in operation once a week. During the period of the summer flight schedule from the end of March to the end of October 2023, the offer of flights from Prague will gradually increase. From the end of March, the airline will offer three flights to Antalya per week, every Sunday, Tuesday and Saturday. From May, it will add a fourth flight on Fridays, and **from June**, flights will be operated every day. Source: SunExpress

Taxi Service at Václav Havel Airport Prague to Be Provided by Uber

From **spring 2023**, **Uber** will become the new **operator of the taxi service at**

Václav Havel Airport Prague, having won the concession procedure entered by two bidders. The winner of the tender guarantees a **fixed fare price quoted in advance**, 24/7 service availability, and a fleet of up to five-year-old mainly upper middle-class cars. Passengers will be able to **order** a taxi ride using their phone without the need to download an application, via the web interface, and at **kiosks in the arrival halls at both terminals**. More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/taxi-service-vaclav-havel-airport-prague-be-provided-uber-customers-aware-price-advance>

Data & Research

Tourism in Czechia is recovering but lack of international tourists persists

While in November 2020, a year full of restrictions due to the covid-19 pandemic, only 78 thousand tourists came to hotels in Czechia, in **November last year**, Czech hotels saw **almost one million guests**, 21% more than in November 2021. Although tourism is recovering in Czechia, it is still driven by residents, while tourists from abroad are absent. At the end of last year, mainly people from neighboring countries and domestic residents traveled to and around Czechia. While **512,469 residents** stayed in the Czech and Moravian hotels, **foreign tourists** accounted for only **482,720**. Most of them came from Germany, 107.5 thousand, Slovakia 52.1 thousand and Poland 34.5 thousand. More at <https://www.czechtourism.cz/en-US/Novinky/Archiv/2023/01/Cestovni-ruch-se-priblizuje-situaci-pred-pandemii>

PRODUCT NEWS

Cities & Regions

Prague

Traditional free tours of Prague to mark the International Day of Guides



The **Association of Guides of the Czech Republic** invites the public to the traditional **free tours of Prague** to mark the International Day of Guides on Saturday, **Feb. 25, 2023 from 2:00 p.m.** The meeting point is at the Náměstí Míru square in Prague 2 in front of the church of St. Ludmila. It is not necessary to sign up in advance. This year's routes will lead through the Vinohrady quarter, one of the tours will be made especially for families with children. Source: Association of Guides of the Czech Republic

The Central Bohemia region

L'Etape Czech Republic by Tour de France 2023

L'Etape Czech Republic by Tour de France is a race for amateurs on road bikes who want to experience the atmosphere of the famous Tour de France race. **The start and finish will be in Prague, routes** with a length of 65 to 142 km will lead through the **Central Bohemia region**. The race will take place on **June 10, 2023**, the start, finish and background of the race will be located



at Prague's Strahov. The race is listed for three different distances – 65, 102 or 146 kilometers. The maximum capacity of the race is 3,000 participants – 1,000 on the Short Route, 1,500 on the Middle Route and 500 on the Long Route. Cycling stars of the past and present, such as Ján Svorada, Zdeněk Štybar, Martina Sáblíková or the 2012 Tour de France winner Sir Bradley Wiggins, will also attend. More at <https://www.letapeczech.cz/en/>

The Vysočina region

Masopust (carnival) in the Vysočina region

Masopust, or carnival celebrations will be held in several towns in the Vysočina region. In **Pelhřimov**, the carnival will be celebrated **on Feb. 16**, with the parade leaving the Masaryk Square at 2:30 p.m. In **Žirovnice**, the carnival parade will leave on **Feb. 26** at 2:30 p.m. from the first courtyard of the Žirovnice Castle, and in **Humpolec**, the celebrations will take place on **Feb. 16** from 2 p.m. Source: towns of Pelhřimov, Žirovnice, Humpolec

The Ústí region

Glamping on the tracks

Kovářská mountain station offers unusual **accommodation**. You can



rent a **wagon**, in which you can live comfortably even in the dead of winter. The carriages on the railway station in the Ore Mountains are equipped with a bathroom and a kitchen, each carriage is unique in terms of design, location or view. If you stay here, you will contribute to the **reconstruction** of this picturesque **railway station**. Source: Wagons in the mountains

Masopust (carnival) in the Ústí Region



Masopust or carnival celebrations will be held in several cities of the Ústí Region. In **Roudnice nad Labem**, celebrations will take place on **Feb. 17** and will also include farmers' markets, in **Litoměřice**, the program will start on **Feb. 18** at 10 am and in **Ústí nad Labem** also on **Feb. 18** at 9 am. In Ústí nad Labem, farmers' markets also will be part of the celebrations. Source: towns of Roudnice nad Labem, Litoměřice, Ústí nad Labem

Culture

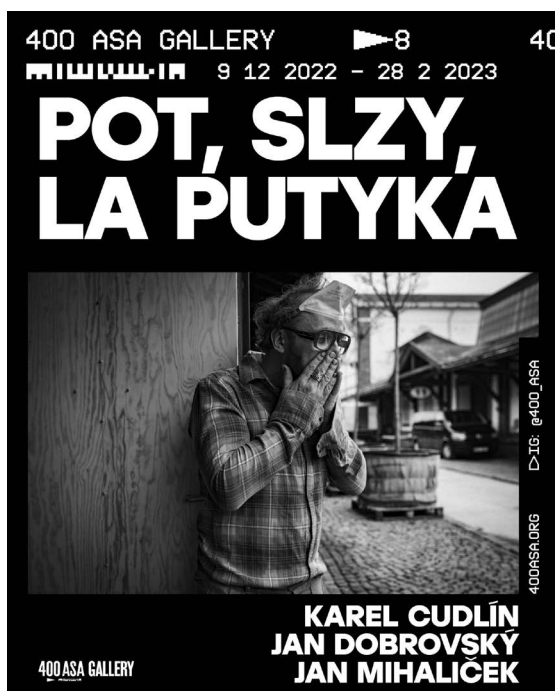
Kateřina Černá: Chronicled Dreams



Exhibition of works by Kateřina Černá who instead of brushes and oil paints uses tempera, ink, fabric scraps, colored papers, lace, ribbons, strings, beads, waxed surface or silver metal foil (such as used to wrap chocolate bars). The artist has transferred into linocut and etching the paintings she had to part with or did not have time to paint. The result is not individual prints, but complete books filled with memories, dreams and behind-the-scenes stories. These are treasured in a polychromed cabinet, as are invitations to exhibitions, poems, puppets, letters and recipes left by grandmother. **Museum Kampa**, Prague, through March 12, 2023. More at <https://www.museumkampa.cz/vystava/katerina-cerna-chronicled-dreams/>

Sweat, tears, La Putyka – exhibition

Exhibition of three photographers from the **400 ASA** association, **Karel Cudlín**, **Jan Dobrovský** and **Jan Mihaliček**, who documented the struggle of the **La Putyka circus** ensemble **during covid lockdowns**. During the time that was almost liquidating for many cultural industries, the actors of the La Putyka circus company decided to continue



their activities. Despite strict anti-covid measures that banned all gatherings and made it impossible to visit theatres, cinemas and circuses, Prague's modern circus La Putyka continued their program and experimented with show formats. The actors performed in the window displays of Prague's shops and the company also streamed non-stop 24-hour performances of one performer at a time. 400 ASA photographers followed these experiments for a year. Gallery 400 ASA, Prague, through Feb. 28, 2023. More at <https://www.400asa.org/en/2022/12/08/sweat-tears-la-putyka-exhibition/>

Shen Yun

Shen Yun Performing Arts is the world's premier classical Chinese dance and music company, established in New York in 2006. It performs **classical Chinese dance**, ethnic and folk dance, and story-based dance, with orchestral accompaniment and solo performers. For 5,000 years, divine culture flourished in the land of China. Through breathtaking music and dance, Shen Yun is reviving this glorious culture. Congress Center Prague, March 8 – 12, 2023. More at <https://www.praguecc.cz/en/upcoming-events>



Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend

Josef Mánes is one of the most important Czech artists of the 19th century. His oeuvre is characterized by its extraordinary breadth and quality – it includes works intended for public space and works of a distinctly intimate character; works that are timeless and works that are quite topical; images, landscapes, allegories; canvases, drawings, and prints. The **exhibition** presents the key areas of Mánes' work and complements them with comparative material covering both the work of his Czech contemporaries and foreign artists who influenced the Czech environment. The overall picture is completed by excerpts from Mánes's correspondence, texts of his time, photographs and, last but not least, information about new discoveries made during the restoration research of Mánes's works. The exhibition features **more than 400 exhibits** from 25 public institutions and private collections, including the original calendar plate of the Prague Astronomical Clock from the collections of the Museum of the City of Prague. **Wallenstein Riding School**, Prague, March 31 – July 16, 2023. More at <https://www.ngprague.cz/en/event/3577/josef-manes-man-artist-legend>

MICE

The Tourism Forum to be held at the Holiday World trade fair in March

This year's edition of the **Tourism Forum** will take place on **March 17, 2023** as part of the **Holiday World & Region World** fair in Prague's Letňany. The theme of the 2023 Tourism Forum will be **sustainability**, and not only from the point of view of environmental protection. The forum will bring a lot of inspiration from abroad for both destination management and entrepreneurs. Apart from the topic of sustainability, a whole range of new innovative ideas in tourism and start-up companies will also appear. The Forum will include lectures, debates, but also more practically focused workshops.
Source: CzechTourism

CORPORATE

News from the CzechTourism agency

Global Chefs Challenge

At the **European round of the prestigious international cooking competition Global Chef Challenge** to be held on **Feb. 19-22, 2023 in Rimini, Italy**, Czechia will be represented by the National Team of Chefs and Pastry Chefs, with the **Czech Specials** project being its proud partner. In the European semi-final round, Czechia will be represented by chef **Lukáš Čížek**, a member of the national team, together with **Anna Marvanová**, the winner of the Confectioner of the Year competition. Juniors will be represented by **Hanka Budková**, the last winner of the Gastro



Junior Bidfood Czech Republic Cup. The finals of the Global Chefs Challenge will be held on Oct. 22-25. 2024 in Singapore. More at <https://worldchefs.org/globalchefschallenge/>

More than 250 services in the tourist industry have achieved the Q Mark

Quality in tourism is symbolized by the **Q Mark**. The mark, which was initiated by entrepreneurs themselves, can be acquired by professionals in the tourist industry. Currently, **more than 250 entities** have the right to use it. The Q Mark is awarded in cooperation with the Czech Tourism Union and the professional associations. The conditions have already been fulfilled by small, medium and large enterprises. The Q Mark can be applied for at participating professional association. Currently, there are nine of them, namely: the Association of Travel Agencies of the Czech Republic, the Association of Czech Travel Offices and Agencies, the Association of Cableway Transport, the Association of Tourist Information Centres, the Association of Pools and Saunas of the Czech Republic, the Association of Campsites of the Czech Republic, Rural Tourism and Agrotourism Union, Czech Mountain Guides Club and the Czech Fitness Chamber. More at <https://www.czechtourism.cz/en-US/Novinky/Archiv/2023/01/Vic-nez-250-sluzeb-v-cestovnim-ruchu-ziskalo-Znamk>