

NEWSLETTER

for foreign offices

August 2023



The Elbe River

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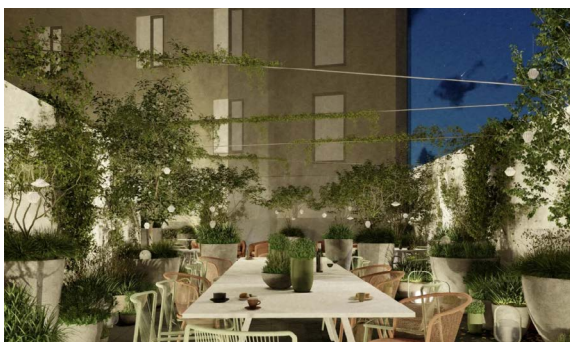
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TRADE NEWS

Hotels & Restaurants

Hotel Perk in Šumperk underwent general reconstruction



The **functionalist Perk Hotel in Šumperk** from the 1930s underwent **general renovation** in 2021-2023. The hotel now offers rooms for seventy guests, a modern restaurant with an open kitchen, conference rooms, an outdoor terrace and a sauna world on the roof with a view of the Praděd mountain.

More at <https://www.hotelperk.cz/en/>

Two Czech restaurants among 150 Most Legendary Restaurants in the World & Their Iconic Dishes



Two Czech restaurants made it to the list of the **150 most legendary restaurants in the world & their iconic dishes** compiled by the TasteAtlas server. **U Fleků**, a historic pub in Prague placed **eighth** with its *svíčková*—a marinated sirloin dish, and **Café Imperial**, also in downtown Prague,

cherished for its historical charm, art nouveau interiors, and commitment to traditional Czech cuisine, placed **38th** with *kulajda*, a classic Czech soup. Source: TasteAtlas

Transportation

Prague Airport received Digital Transformation Award



The Václav Havel Airport Prague won the **Digital Transformation Award** for a set of innovative solutions that improve check-in efficiency and operational safety. The jury of experts praised not only the unique **AeroTrafficPRG** web application which ensures a perfect overview of the situation at the airport for all drivers, but also the airport's advanced meteorological module and other innovations. The Digital Transformation Award is given by the joint initiative of ACI Europe and the SESAR Joint Undertaking (Joint Enterprise for Single European Sky ATM Research). More at <https://www.prg.aero/en/prague-airport-receives-prestigious-digital-transformation-award>

Czech Airlines Technics signed a long-term contract with Air Serbia

The long-term cooperation between **Czech Airlines Technics** and **Air Serbia** will continue in the future. The cooperation was confirmed by a **new contract** for maintenance, repairs and



overhauls of wheels and brakes for the **entire fleet** of A330, A320, A319 and ATR of the Serbian carrier. Air Serbia currently has two Airbus A330s, three Airbus A320s, ten Airbus A319s and six ATR 72-600 aircraft.

More at <https://www.csatechnics.com/news>

Rules and Regulations

Czechia takes care of digital nomads

The so-called **digital nomads will be able to obtain a residence permit in Czechia more easily than before.**

The new economic migration program approved by the government provides for this. It applies to highly qualified workers in the field of information technology (IT) who, due to the nature of their work, work remotely, telecommuting rather than being physically present at a company's headquarters or office. The Digital Nomad program is currently expected to cover workers from Australia, Japan, Canada, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, the United States and Taiwan. These are the countries from which mobile IT experts most often come and which do not pose a security risk to the Czech Republic. If necessary, and if the security situation allows it, the list of countries would be modified. More at <https://www.czechtourism.cz/en-US/Novinky/Archiv/2023/06/Cesko-mysli-i-na-digitalni-nomady-tedy-cestovatele>

Data & Research

The Czech passport is one of the most powerful in the world

Czechia continues its upward trajectory in the **2023 Henley Passport Index**, ranking **fifth**. Henley & Partners, the firm behind the index, bases its methodology on how many countries can be visited on a visa-free basis. According to the index, people with a Czech passport can travel **to 187 destinations completely visa-free**. According to the Henley ranking, Singapore has the world's most powerful passport. Czechia has seen an improvement in its ranking; in 2022 it was in eighth position. Source: Henley & Partners

PRODUCT NEWS

Cities & Regions

Prague

Signal Festival 2023



The **Signal Festival** will light up Prague for the 11th time in a row from **Thursday Oct. 12 to Sunday Oct. 15, 2023**. Over the last decade, the event has grown from a showcase of video mapping and lighting design into a multi-genre digital art festival and art/tech cultural event. More at <https://www.signalfestival.com/en/signal/>

The Central Bohemian Region

Restoration of steam engine brewery in Lobeč among winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2023



The European Commission and Europa Nostra have announced the winners of the **European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2023**. This year, **30 outstanding heritage achievements** from 21 countries have been awarded with the **remarkable restoration of a steam engine brewery in Lobeč** among them. Architects Jana and Pavel Prouza worked over a 15-year period to revive the monument. The revival of the brewery has brought life back to the village, with new families arriving. The village is flourishing socially; the brewery, the local chateau and the community activities make the small village a unique place to visit. More at <https://www.europeanheritageawards.eu/winners/steam-engine-brewery/>

The South Bohemian Region

České Budějovice is the European Capital of Culture 2028
The (PERMA)CULTURE concept led **České Budějovice** to the title of the **European Capital of Culture 2028**. The European Commission praised the South Bohemian town's cultural plans for



the future, the involvement of the local community and landscape, as well as the good networking within the European Union. The city of ninety-six thousand has impressed the commission with a strategy that uses culture to strengthen the relationship between people, institutions and the landscape. České Budějovice won the competition of cultural projects among four Czech cities, Brno, Broumov and Liberec. The European Union grants the title of European Capital of Culture to one or more municipalities for one year. More at <https://www.czechtourism.cz/en-US/Novinky/Archiv/2023/06/Ceske-Budejovice-jsou-Evropskym-hlavnim-mestem-kul>

The Pardubice Region

Great Pardubice Steeplechase



The oldest and probably the most difficult **cross country horse race** on the continent has been held since 1874 in Pardubice. Horses and riders must cope with a track 6,900 m long and overcome 31 obstacles, including one of the world's toughest - the Taxis Ditch. The race will be held on **Oct. 8, 2023**. Source: Racecourse Pardubice

The Winternitz Mills to open to public in September



In the city of Pardubice, the famous **Winternitz Mills** on the bank of the Chrudimka river will **open to public in September after a thorough renovation**. The monumental mills designed by architect Josef Gočár will be converted into a modern art center. The center will host the East Bohemian Gallery Pardubice, the Gallery of the city of Pardubice, the Gočár Gallery and the Central polytechnic workshop. Source: Winternitz Mills

The Olomouc Region

The Ololod' boat returns to the center of Olomouc



After five long years, **cruises on the Moravia River** returned to the very **center of Olomouc** to the newly built embankment. In addition to public cruises, it is possible to book the Ololod' boat for private and corporate events, school trips or celebrations. More at <https://www.plavbyolomouc.cz/en>

Culture

Dvořák Prague 2023



The festival will pay tribute not only to Antonín Dvořák, but also to Johannes Brahms as we commemorate the 190th anniversary of his birth this year, with performances by top artists, many of whom have shined at the festival in recent years. Along with that, there will be another portion of Dvořák's string quartets. That is how one might briefly summarize the program of the **16th annual Dvořák Prague International Music Festival** to be held **Sept. 7 – 25, 2023**. Listeners can look forward, for example, to appearances by the Vienna Philharmonic, the Israel Philharmonic, and Sir András Schiff. The festival will also commemorate 100 years since the launch of Czech Radio broadcasting. More at <https://www.dvorakovapraha.cz/en/>

Watercolor between Prague and Vienna

Watercolor, a technique using water-soluble paints on paper that falls somewhere in between drawing and painting, has a long tradition in the history of fine arts. It had its greatest growth in the 19th century when its universality influenced most fine arts forms. **Vienna** was a major center of watercolor art in the **19th century** where this technique formed a significant part of the local burgher and noble culture. The **National Gallery Prague** holds excellent examples of Viennese watercolour (such as the works of Rudolf von Alt, Thomas Ender, and Josef Kriehuber). Furthermore,



extensive watercolor collections by Czech painters and paintresses are also found in the National Gallery (Antonín Mánes, Bedřich Havránek, Jan Novopacký, Amálie Mánesová, and Vincenc Morstadt). The exhibition shall not only demonstrate the artistic exchange between the two cities, at the time they were belonged to one state, but also the high quality of Czech watercolor artists as well as the impulses they brought into Central European visual culture. A large part of the artefacts is little known or will be displayed for the very first time. **Sept. 22, 2023 – Jan. 1, 2024, Trade Fair Palace, Prague.** More at <https://www.ngprague.cz/en/event/3600/watercolour-between-prague-and-vienna>

Špilberk International Music Festival



The traditional **open-air music festival** annually brings unforgettable musical evenings in the large castle courtyard to the inhabitants and visitors of Brno. In addition to large symphonic works, it also offers connections with other genres under the summer sky, and tries to make classical music available to those who might not otherwise be able to access it. **Špilberk Castle, Brno, Aug. 20 – 27, 2023.** More at <https://filharmonie-brno.cz/en/spilberk-international-music-festival/>

Spa

Mariánské Lázně was awarded the status of a climatic spa



The recent acquisition of **climate spa status** adds a fourth healing resource to **Mariánské Lázně** and takes the destination to a new level. Among other things, the goal is to get clients out of spa hotels and into the therapeutic landscape, absolutely wonderful in Marianske Lazne. Source: Institut lázeňství a balneologie

MICE

European Spas & Balneology Congress

The **27th European Spas & Balneology Congress** will be held in **Karlovy Vary on Oct. 4 -6, 2023.** The European Spas Association organizes the congress annually in different spa towns of Europe. More at <https://europeanspas.eu/congress/>

CORPORATE

News from the CzechTourism agency

30 years apart, 30 years close: Czechia and Slovakia are still together at heart

The **relations between Czechia and Slovakia** have been extraordinary since



the division of the common state in January 1993, they can be described as the **best in modern history**. Travel and the **CzechTourism** agency at home and abroad are helping to make this happen. Czechs visiting Slovakia have long accounted for more than 30% of all visitors. They consider the country as a domestic holiday destination thanks to its shared history and national and geographical proximity. And it is even better when it comes to arrivals of Slovaks to Czechia. Last year there were 780,000 Slovaks visiting, which means an imaginary silver medal among foreign guests and an all-time record in visitor numbers. The good results are due, among other things, to the long-term and systematic work of the foreign representation of the CzechTourism agency in Slovakia. In cooperation with young Slovak illustrator Karolina Uherčíková, CzechTourism representation in Slovakia has prepared a **Czechoslovak Pexeso**. It can be played not only by children but also by the younger generation who is already losing contact with the other language. A **debate of the Czech and Slovak ambassador** is slated for the autumn, and 30th anniversary of the independence of Czechia and Slovakia is also marked by the **cooperation between CzechTourism Slovakia and the monthly magazine Historical Review**. More at <https://www.czechtourism.cz/en-US/Novinky/Archiv/2023/07/30-let-samostatne-30-let-blizko-Cesko-a-Slovensko>

EXPO 2025 World Exhibition will present talented and creative Czechia

Talent and creativity for life. This will be the main **theme of the Czech pavilion at the EXPO 2025 Universal Exposition in Japan**. The exhibition will take place from **April 13 to Oct. 13, 2025 in Osaka**. The **CzechTourism** agency and the Office of the Commissioner General, which has been part of the Czech Centres network since January this year, will also cooperate in preparing the Czech presentation. Czechia will participate in the World EXPO for the sixth time as an independent country. More at <https://www.czechtourism.cz/en-US/Novinky/Archiv/2023/07/Svetova-vystava-EXPO-2025-predstavi-talentovane-a>

The CzechTourism's foreign office in France has a new director



Markéta Dianová has been appointed **director of the CzechTourism's office in France**. The CzechTourism agency aims at building a positive brand of Czechia on the French market, as well as attracting French visitors to Czech out of Prague destinations with the emphasis on locations offering combined products (congress, culture or gastrotourism).