

# NEWSLETTER

**for foreign offices**

December 2022



*Christmas time in Pilsen*

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## TRADE NEWS

### Transportation

#### Icelandair to offer direct flights from Prague to Keflavik



As of **June, 2023**, the **Icelandair** carrier will offer direct flights between the Prague's **Vaclav Havel Airport** and the Iceland's airport in **Keflavik**. The Icelandic carrier which is launching its new service in Prague will offer flights to the Keflavik Airport **four times a week** - on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, using Boeing 737 MAX8 for 160 passengers. More at [www.prg.aero/en](http://www.prg.aero/en)

#### Prague Airport honey wins gold medal for the ninth time in a row



**Prague Airport** has won the **ninth gold medal** in a row for its **blossom honey**, competing in the **Czech Honey contest**, held annually by the Czech Beekeepers Association. Once again, the airport honey samples received a 100% rating in parameters such as water

content, sucrose, electrical conductivity, correctness of information on the labels, and the overall aesthetic impression of the honey packaging. Prague Airport has been submitting its honey samples to the competition since 2013.

More at [www.prg.aero/en](http://www.prg.aero/en)

#### New Shop at the Václav Havel Airport Prague supports Czech and Slovak brands



**Future is Local** is the name of a **new shop at Václav Havel Airport Prague**, which promotes almost **thirty Czech and Slovak brands**. All offered local goods are produced from quality materials in a sustainable manner, with **respect to the environment**. The concept and design of the shop, located in the **Terminal 2** building, also bear the same features. More at [www.prg.aero/en](http://www.prg.aero/en)

#### Vueling to connect Prague and Bilbao



As of **July, 2023**, the **Vueling** carrier will connect **Prague** and the largest

city of the Basque Country, operating its direct service to **Bilbao** twice a week - on Thursdays and Sundays. It will use the Airbus A320 aircraft for 180 passengers on the route. The carrier also services routes from Prague to Barcelona and Paris. More at [www.prg.aero/en](http://www.prg.aero/en)

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## Data & Research

**After the pandemic, Czechs form the largest group of visitors to Prague, followed by tourists from Germany and the United States.**

After the pandemic, more and more **tourists from the Czech Republic** are coming to **Prague**. According to data from the Czech Statistical Office, **397,265** Czech tourists arrived in the capital during the summer holiday months and September, their number **increased by 32 percent compared to the summer of 2019**. The number of foreign tourists reached 1,447,067, with visitors from Germany being the most numerous. In summer, there was a further increase in the number of tourists from the United States, which proportionally returned to pre-pandemic numbers.

More at [www.praguecitytourism.cz/en](http://www.praguecitytourism.cz/en)

**Numbers of foreign visitors to the Czech Republic growing**

The **tourist industry** is back, almost **at pre-Covid numbers**. In the **third quarter of this year**, a total of **7.3 million tourists** came to collective accommodation facilities (CAF) in the Czech Republic, an **increase of 11 percent** year-on-year. Compared to **July, August and September 2019**, this represents a **97-percent appearance**, according to data from the Czech Statistical Office.

More at [www.czechtourism.cz/en](http://www.czechtourism.cz/en)

## PRODUCT NEWS

### Cities & Regions

#### Prague

**Charles Bridge tower to undergo multiyear renovation**

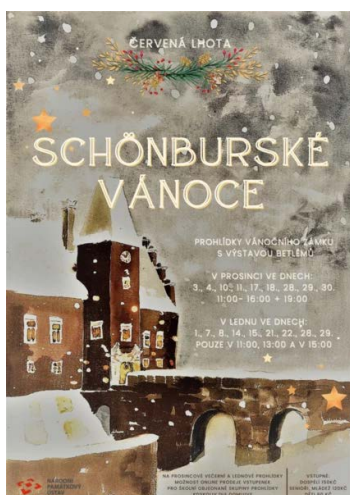


**The tower on the Old Town side of Charles Bridge** will undergo its most extensive renovation since its original construction in the 14th century. The first repairs have already taken place in the autumn. After the winter, a survey of the tower shell will determine the full extent of the needed repairs. **Initial phase of the thorough reconstruction** will mainly concern the upper shell of the tower, including the complete replacement of some of the stones, and will take place **over the next four years**. Source: Prague City Tourism

#### The South Bohemia region

**Schönburg Christmas at the Červená Lhota castle**

This year for the very first time, the **Červené Lhota** castle will also open its gates in **winter**. Visitors can look forward to seeing the **castle as it looked at Christmas when the Schönburg-Hartenstein princely family lived**



**here.** Part of the tour of the castle is also the opportunity to view **nativity scenes exhibition.** Mostly nativity scenes from Bohemia will be represented, either from around Červená Lhota, Třešť or Příbram, but also nativity scenes from South Tyrol. A completely unique nativity scene made from a Playmobil set or a nativity scene made of bread dough will also be on display. The castle will always be open on Saturday and Sunday, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Source: Červená Lhota Castle.

## The Central Bohemia region

### Monínec joins the Gopass program



The **Monínec** ski resort has joined the **Gopass** program that offers dynamic, floating prices allowing visitors to choose days with the lowest ski pass prices. More at <https://zima.moninec.cz/en>

## The Pilsen region

### Advent markets in Pilsen

**Traditional markets** will be held at the **náměstí Republiky square in Pilsen until Dec. 23**, offering not only a large Christmas tree, a nativity scene with life-size wooden statues, a historic carousel and excellent refreshments, but also a rich cultural program. The magical atmosphere of Christmas can also be absorbed during **special advent tours of Pilsen** organized by the Tourist Information Center. Source: Pilsen Tourist Information Center

## The South Moravia region

### Christmas in Brno



**Brno Christmas, second best Christmas in the world. Right after Christmas at your house.** This slogan invites visitors to **Christmas markets in Brno.** The markets will last until **Dec. 23** and will offer rich cultural program as well as the famous Brno gastronomy. Source: TIC Brno

## Culture

### Czech Philharmonic • Christmas Concert

**Ryba's Mass** is a Czech Christmas tradition, and the **Czech Philharmonic**



has programmed it repeatedly. This time, it will be in a unique collaboration with a specialist in the Baroque and Classical repertoire, the conductor Václav Luks and his Collegium Vocale. Ryba's Mass will be followed by **Mozart's Coronation Mass**. Prague, Rudolfinum, Dvorak's Hall, Dec. 20, 2022 at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. More at [www.ceskafilharmonie.cz/en](http://www.ceskafilharmonie.cz/en)

### Dialogues in Time / Hommage à Ricardo Bofill



The exhibition **Dialogues in Time / Hommage à Ricardo Bofill** in the **Jaroslav Fragner Gallery** focuses on **contemporary architecture in a historical context** in the territory of the Czech Republic. The exhibition presents more than five dozen realized reconstructions, new buildings, as well as interventions in public space across the country, in which history meets the present sensitively. A **separate section** is dedicated to the architect **Ricardo Bofill** (1939–2022), whose realizations significantly influenced the current character of the Prague's quarter of **Karlín**. Prague, Jaroslav Fragner Gallery, thorough Dec. 28, 2022. More at [www.gjf.cz/en](http://www.gjf.cz/en)

### Holy Night. Christmas in Fine Arts



The **Christmas exhibition** explores the subject of the **birth of Jesus Christ** and the related festivities as shown in prints, drawings and miniatures dating **from the Middle Ages and Renaissance to the 20th century**. The presented artists include **Albrecht Dürer, Jan Sadeler, Rembrandt van Rijn, Hermína Laukotová, Vojtěch Preissig, and Bohuslav Reynek**. The exhibition also introduces visitors to the special characteristics of a Czech Christmas through the iconic works of **Mikoláš Aleš and Josef Lada**. The last part of the exhibition is devoted to the commercial aspect of the Christmas season in modern times. Even despite the shopping fever and ubiquitous rush, Christmas has retained its mysterious and joyful atmosphere and it continues to be the celebration of love, understanding, and good will in the first place. Prague, Schwarzenberg Palace, Dec. 6, 2022 – March 5, 2023. More at [www.ngprague.cz/en](http://www.ngprague.cz/en)

### Šárka Trčková – Secrets

The **retrospective exhibition** presents a selection from the prematurely closed work of the Czech graphic artist and painter **Šárka Trčková** (1965–2015). Her delicate watercolours, small-format paintings and large-scale graphics reflect her obsession with work, her elemental relationship to color and her mastery of



a wide range of art techniques. GASK, Kutná Hora, through March 12, 2023. More at [www.gask.cz/en](http://www.gask.cz/en)

## mk<sup>2</sup>: Museum Kampa in Moravský Krumlov



The newly opened **mk<sup>2</sup> exhibition** at the **Castle in Moravský Krumlov** is a varied “tasting” of **artworks from the collections of Prague’s Museum Kampa**. It presents a collection of paintings and sculptures by leading figures of the Czech unofficial scene from the 1960s to the 1980s (such as Adriena Šimotová, Karel Nepraš, and Stanislav Kolíbal), as well as works by exiled artists (such as Ludmila Seefried-Matějková and Zbyněk Sekal), regional artists (such as Jindřich Boška and František Dörfel), and works by prominent contemporaries (such as Jan Merta, Petr Veselý, and Josef Achrer). The collection of paintings and sculptures by these famous (or, on the contrary, neglected) personalities forms a lively structure interwoven with many styles which reveals the diversity and internal context of our art scene. This intimate, yet emotionally rich mk<sup>2</sup> exhibition will bring to mind the

admirable work of Mrs. Meda Mládek, and, for visitors to Moravský Krumlov, will become an inspiration to visit Sovovy Mlýny in Prague, where Museum Kampa is located and holds short-term exhibitions. More at [www.museumkampa.cz/exhibitions/](http://www.museumkampa.cz/exhibitions/)

## Štěpán Zavřel: Journey to the Stars

The playful **exhibition Journey to the Stars presents, for the first time in the Czech Republic**, work of the world-famed and internationally acclaimed **illustrator Štěpán Zavřel**. Take a journey through magical landscapes to find the star of Bethlehem and be drawn into stories full of miracles dating back more than thousand years. Be enchanted by the magic of the Garden of Eden, build the mythical Tower of Babel, and peer into a picturesque world where kings wander the desert and shepherds watch the night sky and await the birth of the baby Jesus. 3+ galerie, Kláštery Český Krumlov, through April 30, 2023.

More at [www.ckrumlov.info/en](http://www.ckrumlov.info/en)

## CORPORATE

### News from the CzechTourism agency

#### Czech carp

The traditional **Czech carp cooking competition**, organized by the Šumava branch of the **Association of Chefs and Confectioners**, took place this year on Nov. 22 and 23 in the premises of the National Agricultural Museum in Prague. The **winner** of the competition, whose partner also was the **Czech Specials project**, was **Patrik Lexa**, a promising chef who was also a member of the Junior National Team of Chefs and Pastry Chefs.