

NEWSLETTER

for foreign offices

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TRADE NEWS

Hotels & restaurants

Hotel Orea Resort Horizont**** refurbished



The newly refurbished **Orea Resort Horizont****** in Šumava offers luxury accommodation in 117 rooms and suites along with complimentary use of its wellness area with swimming pool, whirlpool, solarium and Roman spa. Hotel restaurant and lobby bar with a summer terrace, free parking and free Wi-Fi is also available. More at www.resorthorizont.cz

Czech investment company R2G to purchase Prague's Intercontinental Hotel

Czech investment company **R2G** is buying the **Intercontinental Hotel in Prague**. The firm is acquiring the hotel from Slovakia's group Best Hotel Properties owned by the Czech-Slovak J&T investment group and the US investment company Westmont. It was not immediately clear how much R2G will pay for the hotel. The hotel situated in downtown Prague features 372 rooms and 14 conference rooms.

Exim's Ferid Nasr acquires share in Hotel Evropa



Austrian group Julius Meinl sold part of its Art Nouveau **Hotel Evropa** in downtown Prague to **Ferid Nasr**, founder of the Exim tour operator. Nasr should acquire the remaining share in the hotel after it is open late next year. The hotel is currently under reconstruction. The hotel will belong to the **W Hotels** brand, part of Marriott International. It was not immediately clear how much Nasr paid for the deal. More at www.e15.cz

Hilton Prague Old Town completed a multi-million renovation

The centrally located **Hilton Prague Old Town** in December completed its **multi-million-dollar renovation**, including 303 refurbished guest rooms and the 1,200 square meter conference and meeting floor with 14 function rooms, including the Dvorak Ballroom for up to 340 delegates.

Transportation

Russia's Ural Airlines launched Prague-Moscow route

As of December 26, Russia's **Ural Airlines** offers direct flights between **Prague** and Moscow. The airline operates four flights a week between the Vaclav Havel Airport in Prague and the Zkukovsky Airport near **Moscow**. More at www.uralairlines.com

Smartwings to start service between Slovakia and Antalya in Turkey

Czech airline **Smartwings** will launch service between Slovakia and **Antalya** in Turkey this spring. The airline will operate two flights a day from **Bratislava** as of May 30 and five flights a week from **Košice** as of May 31. The flights will be terminated with the end of summer season in October.

Georgian Airways to add third flight from Prague to Tbilisi

Georgian Airways will increase the number of its flights between **Prague and Tbilisi**, capital of Georgia. Effective 31 March 2019, the airline will add a third connection to the existing two weekly services on the route. The service will be operated on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays (new frequency) with Embraer 190 for 97 passengers. The carrier launched this route in May 2017. More at www.prg.aero

Prague Airport reopened its lookout platform

The **Prague International Airport** reopened its **lookout platform** near the village of **Kněževes**. The original platform was closed last spring due to construction works within the airport's expansion. At 4.5 meters, the new platform is 2 meters higher than the original one and is 51 meters farther from the runway.

2018 a record year for Ostrava Airport

A record-breaking 377,973 passengers passed through the **Leoš Janáček Airport in Ostrava** last year, an increase of 17 percent compared to 2017. Greece, Great Britain, Bulgaria, Egypt and Turkey were among the most frequented destinations. The airport is currently negotiating further continuation of Ryanair's flights from Ostrava. More at www.airport-ostrava.cz

Virtual information service at Prague Airport



Passengers can use another technological advancement at **Václav Havel Airport Prague**. A test run of a **Virtual Information Service** has been launched, providing passengers with updated information on departures and arrivals as well as details of services provided at the airport and transport options to/from the airport. The service will also help people find their way around the airport and direct them to the right check-in counter or gate. The service is currently available in **Terminal 1 Departure Hall** only. If the new technology proves useful, Prague Airport will implement it at other points of operation around the airport. More at www.prg.aero

New commercial zone at the Prague Airport

The Prague Airport is opening a new **commercial zone at the Terminal 2** with new shops run by Lagardère Travel Retail, Rituals, Hamleys and TOM PLUS and with a Marché restaurant. More at www.prg.aero

Vaclav Havel Airport Prague: number of passengers and destinations growing

Nearly **16.8 million passengers** passed through the **Vaclav Havel Airport** in Prague last year, a **9-percent increase** compared to 2017. Three new airlines added Prague to their network and the number of destinations rose by seven. The airport has been growing continuously since 2013. More at www.prg.aero

MICE

MCB – new associated member of UIA

As of November 2018, MCB is a new **Associate Member of the Union of International Associations** (UIA). The membership means a great opportunity for Moravia Convention Bureau to get access to information about international associations and organizations. This information is vital for the **Moravia Convention Bureau** business: bidding, establishing cooperation with our partners, search for prospective ambassadors etc. UIA (The Union of International Associations) was founded in 1907 by Henri La Fontaine (Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1913) and Paul Otlet (considered one of the fathers of information science). UIA is a non-profit, independent research institute, a repository for current and historical information on the work of international associations. More at www.moraviaconvention.com.

People

Two key figures leave the ERV Evropská pojišťovna

Chairman of the Management Board **Vladimír Krajíček** and member of the Board **Ondřej Rušíkvas** are leaving the **ERV Evropská pojišťovna**, based on mutual agreement with the shareholders, after 26 years with the company. Libor Dvořák will become the Managing Director of the company from April 2019 and Štěpán Landík shall take over the duties of the Sales Director from January 2019. The new two-member Management Board will take over its new duties after the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in March 2019. More at www.ervpojistovna.cz.

Data & Research

More visitors to Třebíč. Foreigners attracted mostly by the Jewish Quarter



The number of visitors to **Třebíč** grew by almost 12 percent last year as compared to the previous year. The town's information centre welcomed over 147 000 people. The strongest attraction for foreign tourists is the Jewish Quarter, with an extension of the exhibition devoted to Antonín Kalina scheduled for February. St. Prokop's Basilica is the main puller for domestic tourists. The basilica, the Jewish Quarter and the Jewish cemetery have been a UNESCO monument since 2003.

PRODUCT NEWS

Culture

Pixar – 30 Years of Animation

From February 15 to May 26, 2019, the Krizik's Pavillions at the **Holešovice Exhibition Grounds** in Prague will host a spectacular exhibition of artwork from one of the most renowned animation studios in the world - Pixar. The exhibition, called **Pixar - 30 Years of Animation**, will present archival as well as newer works from the famous studio in a showcase that lets visitors take a look under the hood at how Pixar makes its films. The exhibit also delves into Pixar's process for creating characters that will resonate with audiences worldwide and features original drawings that help illuminate the studio's creative methods. This exhibition has been seen by audiences around the globe, and now it is ready to premiere in the Czech Republic. More at www.pixarexhibition.cz.

Baroque for all the family at Pilsen's DEPO2015

Pilsen's **DEPO2015** will open grand interactive exposition for all the family **Baroque** that will make visitors acquainted not only with the period's culture but also with its lifestyle. Admission is free. Jan. 25 – May 19, 2019, DEPO2015, Pilsen. More at www.plzen.eu.

Four Continents Jazz festival in Jazz Dock

The annual series of concerts of exceptional musicians from four continents will take place once again in Prague club **Jazz Dock**. Renowned American guitarist Julian Lage, trumpet virtuoso Ambrose Akinmusire, walking in the footsteps of Miles Davis, and Israeli double bass player Adam Ben Ezra will all partake. Jan. 11 – March 21, 2019, Jazz Dock, Prague. More at www.praha.eu.

Chanticleer – an orchestra of voices

Founded in San Francisco in 1978, **Chanticleer** is known around the world as “an orchestra of voices” for the seamless blend of its twelve male voices ranging from countertenor to bass and its original interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz, and from gospel to venturesome new music. Their Prague concert called “THEN and THERE – HERE and NOW” will include de choir's most successful pieces.

Jan. 31, 2019, 19:00, Rudolfinum, Prague. More at www.prague.eu

Mozart's Birthday 2019

On 27 January 2019, the Estates Theatre, whose history is closely linked with the legendary composer, will resound with **W. A. Mozart's** melodic music, as performed by the National Theatre Orchestra, under the baton of the world-renowned opera singer and conductor **Plácido Domingo**. Four superb soloists will appear at the concert: Adela Zaharia, Štěpánka Pučálková, Petr Nekoranec and Simone Alberghini. 27. 1. 2019, 19.00, Estates Theater, Prague. More at www.prague.eu

Cities, communities & regions



Museum of Senses, Prague

The Museum of Senses in Prague is home to an experience that will awaken your senses and inspire you to discover more and, therefore, to feel more. A place as fun as it is educational, as amazing as it is enigmatic, and as crazy as it is rational. Celebrate the Museum Selfie Day at the Museum of Senses on January 16 and share your selfies under the **#museumselfie** či **#MOSmuseumselfieday** hashtag. More at www.muzeumsmyslu.cz.

Turnstiles installed at the service entrance of New City Hall

The **Prague** municipality has installed **turnstiles** at the service **entrance of the New City Hall** to prevent hordes of unruly tourists from trying the hall's paternoster lift. The turnstiles should improve safety of the tourists who often try to enter the paternoster with strollers or under the influence of alcohol.

TMR has leased a resort near Brno for 20 years

Igor Rattaj's **Tatry Mountain Resorts (TMR)** has leased the **Kaskáda Golf Resort Brno** for the next twenty years. TMR has leased the resort's hotel, restaurant and congress center, the golf course will be operated by the resort's owner Vladimír Plašil. TMR has entered the golf business last fall with the lease of Golf & Ski Resort Ostravice. More at www.e15.cz.



Panoramic trail to open in Pustevny in the Beskydy Mountains

A panoramic **Trail Valaška** will open in Pustevny in the Beskydy Mountains. The 610 meters long trail includes a 22-meter-high cascading tower, the longest glass lookout platform in Europe and 150-meter-long Himalayan-style walkway. More at www.stezkavalaska.cz

Former hotel in Sedlčany to become a wellness center

Former **hotel Vltavan** in Sedlčany near Příbram will be transformed into a **wellness center** to draw more tourists to the town. The center should open next year.

Events

The Chinese National Circus in the Czech Republic.

The **Chinese National Circus** will celebrate its 30th anniversary also in the Czech Republic. In January 2019, it will visit 6 towns, **Prague and Brno** included, with 7 performances of its Great Wall show. The show offers the best of Chinese acrobatics, with 30 top artists entertaining the audience with 30 performances to mark the anniversary. More at www.prague.eu, www.gotobrno.cz.

Grand Restaurant Festival 2019



A **culinary feast** for foodies that makes it possible for anyone who's interested in gourmet dining to visit the best and often more expensive restaurants. Enjoy specialties from the finest and most interesting restaurants from **Maurer's Grand Restaurant Guide** at special festival prices. Various places and venues. More at www.grandrestaurantfestival.cz.

CORPORATE

CzechTourism & resort

New campaign in New York to boost arrivals from the U.S. to the Czech Republic

Joint advertising campaign by the Prague Airport, CzechTourism, Prague City Tourism and the tourism hub for Central Bohemia has been launched in **New York**. to present Prague and Central Bohemia in the U.S. as an attractive and safe destination and boost arrivals from the U.S.A. to the Czech Republic. The campaign will run until the end of the year and includes approximately 1,000 advertising spaces on New York underground trains and 80 advertising spaces in the underground station on 53rd Street and 5th Avenue, right in the center of Manhattan. More at www.prg.aero.

CzechTourism to present a new trade fair design for the Czech Republic

To be used between 2019 and 2022, the new **trade fair design** of the Czech Republic is characterized by clear and simple arrangement, large-scale visuals, unique 3D banners and prominent signage in national colours. The design was artistically created by Bronislav Stratil.

Kudy z nudy portal reaches record-breaking number of visits in 2018, driven by popular sights and events

Kudy z nudy, and information travel portal, has scored the record-breaking number of visits ever. The number of visits reached 16.3 million, by 3 million more than in 2017. The main points of interest were traditional tourist sights and large events, such as Christmas markets, ice sculpture festivals, food & drink festivals and sports events. The most popular spots

presented on kudyznudy.cz included Tree-top walk in Jánské Lázně and Dolní Morava, Museum of Senses, Techmania, Vida!, Mirakulum, castles and chataux and many more.

Infographics in English

The English version of the infographics devoted to the 25th anniversary of CzechTourism will be ready by the end of January.