

NEWSLETTER

for foreign offices

March 2019

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TRADE NEWS

Hotels & restaurants



Prague's Don Giovanni hotel changes hands

Mornington Capital, an international hotel investment fund manager, **sold the Don Giovanni hotel in Prague**. The new owner is a leading family-owned fund from Scandinavia. Mornington Capital was represented Cushman & Wakefield in collaboration with Hodges Ward & Elliott in the sale. Price of the deal was not disclosed. Czech-based Czech Inn Hotels remains the hotel's operator. More at www.cushmanwakefield.cz

Lagarto set to open new restaurant

North Bohemia's **coffee house chain** is set to add a new outlet to their existing five, located in Teplice. The **Lagarto** chain's two coffee houses in Chomutov, a coffee house and bistro in Most and a coffee house in **Teplice**, will be complemented by the **Lagarto J&J restaurant** which will have a terrace offering not only a unique view of **the city of Teplice** but also an interesting culinary experience. The daily operation will be divided into time periods, each of which will fulfill a different dining purpose: Breakfast will be served between eight and ten, and then from ten to eleven the venue will serve as a coffee house. Lunch will be served between eleven and two, followed by a patisserie between two and half past five. An aperitif bar will operate from half past five to seven, and dinner will be served between seven and ten o'clock. More at www.lagartocafe.cz.

Chateau Hotel Sychrov not been sold yet

Chateau Hotel Sychrov has not yet been sold as one of the perspective buyers has asked that the bidding **deadline** originally set for March 15 be **extended to May 3, 2019**. The owner, Regal estate, offers the hotel for sale in a tender organized by the Naxos company. More at www.naxos.cz.

Buddha Café introduces kid's menu

Buddha Café, on **Balbínova Street** in Prague's Vinohrady, has recently introduced a **children's menu**. While the kids are enjoying their children's meals, their parents can take their pick from among the other new items on the menu that Buddha Café has introduced, the **Back to Basics menu**. This menu goes back to the essence of Asian cuisine and, at the same time, to the best recipes that have proved most popular with the guests over the years. More at www.cafebuddha.cz.

Special Brunch in Akademie Hotels

Executive Chef of Akademie Hotels Petr Svoreň has prepared a special brunch for the Mothers' Day on May 12 that will be served in all of the chain's hotels. Price for the brunch that will include also roasted duck, sausages or Moravian cakes, soft drinks and wine is CTK 450, children under ten will eat for free. More at www.hotelyakademie.cz.

A new Ayurveda Pavilion opened in Svatá Kateřina Resort



The **Svatá Kateřina** resort has risen to a new level by opening the new **Ayurveda Pavilion**. The 1,600-sq.m facility offers specialized areas for the Ayurveda medicine, extending the capacity of the existing wellness & spa at the same time. Designed by architect Jakub Tejk, the Ayurveda Pavilion is a wooden structure based on 111 monoliths from a nearby quarry. The facility is divided into two sections – Ayurveda and spa. Svatá Kateřina Resort has the most extensive offer of Ayurveda treatments in the Czech

Republic and is the country's only centre with a guarantee from Kairali, a global network of renowned Indian clinics. More at www.katerinaresort.cz.

Transportation

Airport Prague receives Airport Service Quality Award 2018



Prague's airport has received the Airport Service Quality Award 2018. The Prague's airport received the award in the category of 15 to 25 million passengers per year, sharing it with airports in Athens and

Helsinki. The accolades are awarded annually by Airports Council International to airports with the best passenger satisfaction with airport services. More at www.prg.aero.

Ural Airlines increases the number of flights between Prague and Yekaterinburg, Russia

Ural Airlines has increased the number of flights on the regular route between **Prague and Yekaterinburg, Russia**. As of March 6, the airline is offering six flights per week, every day except Monday. The route is served by the Airbus A320 aircraft. More at www.uralairlines.com.

United Airlines to launch direct flights from Prague to New York/Newark

United Airlines will start direct flights **from Prague to the New York/Newark Liberty Airport**. As of June 7, the airline will connect the two cities every day. United Airlines offer flights to more than 280 destinations in North and South America. More at www.united.com/cz.

SCAT Airlines to launch direct route Prague–Astana

The **SCAT Airlines** has confirmed it would launch a new regular connection between **Prague and Astana**. As of June 2, 2019, the airline will fly to the Kazakhstan's capital twice a week, on Thursdays and Sundays. The route will be served by the Boeing 737 aircraft. Some 24 thousand passengers are expected to use the route annually. The new direct line to Kazakhstan will enable passenger to comfortable make use connecting flights to other cities in Kazakhstan, such as Almaty, Shymkent, Taraz, Oskemen and Pavlodar. More at www.scat.kz.

Prague Airport opens new waiting room for disabled passengers

The **Vaclav Havel Airport** has opened a new **waiting room for disabled passengers**. The waiting room is located at the departure hall of Terminal 2 and for the time being will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The waiting room offers special seats, soda bar and standard assistance services. More at www.prg.aero.

China Eastern to fly from Prague five times a week

China Eastern Airlines will increase the number of flights from Prague to Shanghai. As of May 6, the airline will have five flights per week from the Vaclav Havel Airport, including on Monday. The route will be served by the Airbus A330-200 with 262 seats. About 10,000 passengers are expected to use the line during the summer season. Thursday flights will have a stopover in Sian attractive for its terracotta army. More at www.chinaeasternairlines.cz.

Ryanair to launch new routes from Prague to Mallorca and Bordeaux

Ryanair has announced launch of **new routes to Palma de Mallorca and Bordeaux**. The airline will service flights from Prague to the largest of the Balearic Islands every Tuesday from June 2019, while the Bordeaux connection will be offered with a twice weekly frequency on Thursdays and Sundays, effective 27 October 2019. More at www.prg.aero.

Number of private flights rising

Use of private jets is on the rise in the Czech Republic, according to statistics by the Prague Airport. The airport recorded 12,722 private flights last year. Number of such flights grew ten percent over the last five years.

Exhibition of projects of new public area at Prague Airport



Until June 11, **Václav Havel Airport Prague** passengers and visitors can see an **exhibition of the projects of a new public area** in front of the extended **Terminal 2**, which includes two new parking garages, a new backbone connecting building, and the so-called Plaza – an outdoor area in front of the future terminal. The projects were part of a competition won

by the **D3A studio**. The exhibition is located in a connecting building between Terminals 1 and 2. More at www.prg.aero.

Smartwings to demand compensation from Boeing

The Czech airline **Smartwings** will demand financial compensation from **Boeing** after it had to ground its seven **Boeing 737 MAX** airplanes. The airline says that replacing the grounded aircraft costs the company several million CZK daily. All Boeing MAX 8 planes have been grounded by EASA decree following the plane's deadly crash in Ethiopia.

Ryanair announces 12 new connections from the Czech Republic for the winter flight schedule 2019

The low-cost carrier will open direct lines to 11 new destinations, including Manchester with 9 flights a week, and a new connection from **Brno** to **Berlin Schönefeld** with two flights a week. In its schedule for winter 2019, Ryanair will increase the number of its connections to a total number of 34, expecting the number of passengers to grow to 2.7 million a year. The airline will increase the frequency of flights on six connections from Prague. For instance, there will be 19 flights to London Stansted a week. In total, Ryanair will offer 147 flights a week from Prague.

MICE

People

Markéta Wernerová quits as director of the Central Bohemian tourist board

Markéta Wernerová will resign from the post of the director of the Central Bohemian tourist board on March 15, 2019. She is leaving the post at her own request. A tender for the post of new director is to be announced soon. In the meantime, Marek Černoč, head of the Central Bohemian office will lead the tourist board.

Data & Research

Prague welcomed 7.9 million visitors in 2018

In 2018, Prague received 6,670 million foreign visitors, a 1.7 percent increase compared to the previous year and 1.220 million domestic visitors, an increase of 12 percent compared to 2017. Visitors spent in Prague the total of **18.5 million nights**, the average length of stay was 2.3 nights. Among foreign visitors, German tourists were the most numerous, followed by tourists from Great Britain, USA, Russia, Italy, China and South Korea. The biggest increase was recorded among visitors from Ukraine, 47.9 percent compared to 2017. More at www.praguecitytourism.cz.

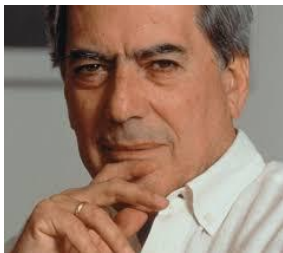
Only every fifth restaurant guest gives a ten-percent tip

Czech restaurant guests give usually the **tip of CZK 20 to 40**. Only every fifth guest gives a ten-percent tip and the same proportion gives more than 10 percent. About one third of guests gives the tip of only a couple of crowns, saying good service should be a standard and there is no need to pay for it separately, according to a research by the STEM/Mark agency conducted for the Storyous company.

PRODUCT NEWS

Culture

Mario Vargas Llosa to visit Czech Republic



Mario Vargas Llosa, a Peruvian author who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2010, will be the guest, along with other Latin American writers, of the **Book World Prague festival**. Bernardo Cavalho, Rodrigo Fresán, Álvaro Enrique or Mariana Enríquez will also be among those who will present their works at the festival held May 9–12, 2019 in Prague. More at www.prague.eu.

Jaroslav Róna: Drawings from Elsewhere

A new exhibition displays drawings by **Jaroslav Róna**. He created most of his Drawings from Elsewhere when travelling and they represent a kind of a diary. Some of them were draught in Malta, Crete, Rhodes, Corfu, Venice, Milan, Amsterdam, Jewish Museum in Prague, Robert Guttmann Gallery, U Staré školy 3, Prague 1, March 7 – Oct. 10, 2019. More at www.prague.eu.

Festival of Baroque Arts in Český Krumlov 2019

The 12th year of **Festival of Baroque Arts in Český Krumlov** in the Baroque Theatre of the Český Krumlov Castle will present from 20 to 22 September 2019 new world premiere of baroque opera **Demofonte** by Johann Adolf Hasse performed in Venice's Teatro San Giovanni Grisostomo on 26 December 1748. The opera will be performed by the excellent international baroque orchestra **Hof-Musici**. More at www.festival.krumlov.cz.

International Music Festival Český Krumlov 2019

The 28th year of the **International Music Festival Český Krumlov** will offer again a varied show of musical genres. From July 19th to August 10th the festival will offer a total of **23 music concerts** that will present selection of the best of contemporary Czech and foreign music production. The concerts will again take place in unique venues of Český Krumlov: the Brewery Garden, the Castle Garden, the Castle Riding Hall, the Masquerade Hall, the Baroque Theatre and the Church of the Body of Christ and of the Virgin Mary of Our Sorrows. This time the festival will add a new venue - the Church of St. Nicolas in the military space in Boletice. More at www.ckrumlov.info

400 ASA: PHOTOGRAPHY

The 400 ASA: Fotography exhibition in the National Gallery's Trade Fair Palace displays photos by seven prominent Czech photographers from two generations: Antonín Kratochvíl, Karel Cudlín, Jan Mihaliček, Jan Dobrovský, Tomki Němec, Alžběta Jungrová and Martin Wágner. The 400 ASA group was created in autumn last year. March 1 – Sept 8, 2019. National Gallery, Prague. More at www.ngprague.cz

Cities, communities & regions

Czech capital offers money to film makers

The city of **Prague is offering money to film makers** willing to shoot a movie in the capital, provided the city will indeed act as Prague in the film. The city has provided the total of 24.6 million CZK to 19 Czech and foreign films over the last two years.

Events

21 Czech restaurants to take part in a French cuisine festival



Twenty-one restaurants in the Czech Republic will on March 21, 2019 present gastronomy of Provence within the international festival **Goût de/Good France**. 5,000 chefs in 150 countries around the world will participate in the festival that focuses this year on responsible gastronomy. Bílá kráva, Á Table!, Alchymist Club Restaurant or Bistro Piano will be among the participating restaurants in Prague. More [HERE](#).

Festival of lights in Plzeň

The **Blik blik festival of lights in Plzeň** on March 29 and 30 will offer over 15 light installations, four of them indoors. The festival will illuminate the city all the way from DEPO2015 to the Brewery Museum. More at www.depo2015.cz.

Garden Food Festival

Festival celebrating good food that, among other things, supports local farmers and producers, will take place in five cities this year: in Olomouc (Sept. 28-29), Ostrava (April 27-28), Rožnov pod Radhoštěm (May 25-26), Uherské Hradiště (August 31 – Sept.1) and for the first time also in Prague (April 4-6). More at www.gardenfestival.cz.

Febiofest

This year's edition of the Prague IFF – **Febiofest** will again bring a number of world famous names to the Czech capital including **Peter Fonda** who will receive the Kristián award for his lifetime contribution to the world cinema. The festival will take place March 21 – 29 in Prague. More at www.febiofest.cz.

Invisible Exhibition

The **Invisible Exhibition** is a unique interactive journey to an invisible world, where in total darkness visitors find their way out only by touch, sounds and scent. On this invisible journey visitors are led by blind or partially sighted people through 7 differently furnished places. A tour starts every 15 minutes. New Town Hall, Karlovo náměstí 1/23, Prague. More at www.prague.eu.

Easter Markets – Old Town Square

The largest and most famous Easter markets in Prague feature wooden stalls decorated with the bright colours of spring, flowers and ribbons. They are stocked with handicraft products

such as embroidered lace, wooden toys, ceramics, scented candles, puppets, and Easter eggs. The accompanying program traditionally focuses on old Czech customs and traditions, including concerts of children's choirs and folk-dance performances. April 6–28, 2019, Old Town Square, Prague. More at www.prague.eu.

Kolo pro život 2019

Since its first year in 2000, **Kolo pro život (Bike for Life)** has become the most popular amateur MTB race series in the Czech Republic. Bike for Life is a series of weekend MTB events for bikers of every age and performance level. It is even for those who just accompany the bikers. The event offers a range of distances, as well as a rich entertainment programme. Events take place from April till October. More at www.kolopro.cz.

RunCzech závody 2019

RunCzech is one of the most popular running series in the country. Thousands of runners compete, or just enjoy running, in half-marathons and marathons in Prague, Karlovy Vary, Olomouc, Ústí nad Labem and Olomouc. RunCzech excels in great organization and great atmosphere. Running events take place from April till October. More at www.runczech.com.

Běhej lesy 2019

The running series **Běhej lesy 2019** starts in the Lednice-Valtice Area on April 27. The starting point is the chateau garden of the Lednice Chateau and leads through the picturesque landscape, which is a protected UNESCO cultural heritage. More at www.behejlesy.cz.

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CzechTourism & resort