

# **NEWSLETTER**

## **for foreign offices**

August 2019

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## TRADE NEWS

### Hotels & restaurants



#### Radisson Blu opened new Art Nouveau hotel in Prague

**Radisson Blue Hotel** is a newly opened establishment in a 19<sup>th</sup> century Art Nouveau building in downtown **Prague (Žitná Street)** that used to house a Sheraton hotel in the past, featuring 160 luxury rooms and suites and eight meeting rooms for up to 150 participants. More at [www.radissonblu.com](http://www.radissonblu.com).

#### New relaxation zone in hotel Alexandria

The **Alexandria hotel** in the spa town of **Luháčovice** has opened, at the occasion of its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, new relaxation zone with two outdoor whirlpools. More at [www.luhacovicelazne.eu](http://www.luhacovicelazne.eu).

### Transportation



#### The Prague Airport Group achieves a gross operating profit of CZK 4.9 billion in 2018

In **2018**, the key companies of the **Prague Airport Group** reported their operating profit of **CZK 4.922 billion**, approximately reaching the 2017 operating profit level. The

Group's economic performance was positively affected by higher revenues from both aviation and non-aviation trade, such as premises rental and parking services. The Prague Airport Group consists of its key companies Letiště Praha, a. s., Czech Airlines Handling, a.s., and Czech Airlines Technics, a.s. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

#### Prague Airport handled 5% more passengers in the first half of this year than last year

**Prague Airport** handled a total of **7,841,865 passengers** during the first six months of this year, a **5% increase** compared to the same period of 2018. Traditionally, the busiest destination in terms of the number of handled passengers was London, while Amsterdam recorded the highest increase in the number of handled passengers. The number of passengers on long-haul routes increased by 10% compared to the same period of last year, with the busiest destination being Dubai. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

#### Ryanair flew 5 million customers on its routes to/from Prague

**Ryanair** flew **5 million passengers** on its routes **to/from Prague** since its first flight from Prague to Dublin in April, 2014. The 5,000,000<sup>th</sup> passenger travelled on Aug. 1, 2019 on the low-cost carrier's flight from Prague to Riga. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

### WizzAir to launch new Prague–Kishinev route

**WizzAir** will open a **Prague–Kishinev** route as part of its winter schedule. As of Dec. 18, 2019, the low-cost carrier will fly between Prague and the capital of Moldova **twice a week**, on Wednesdays and Sundays. The route will be served by the Airbus A320 aircraft with 180 seats. The Prague Airport expects 32,000 passengers to use the route in both directions annually. More at [www.wizzair.com](http://www.wizzair.com).

### easyJet to launch regular route from Prague to Geneva

The new route between **Prague** and **Geneva** will be operated by **easyJet** from Nov. 1, 2019 **three times a week**, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The carrier will use Airbus A320 for 180 passengers to operate the year-round service to the second largest city in Switzerland. According to Prague Airport's estimates, up to 48 thousand passengers could use the service annually in both directions. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

### LOT to launch new Prague – Budapest route

**LOT Polish Airlines** will launch new regular **Prague–Budapest** route next year. The airlines will fly between the two cities **up to twice a week** as of March 30, 2020. The route will be served by the Embraer 195 aircraft with 122 seats. The Prague airport expects 110,000 passengers to use the route in both directions annually. More at [www.lot.com](http://www.lot.com).



### Ural Airlines to launch Prague–Perm route

**Ural Airlines** will launch new direct line between **Prague** and the Russian city of **Perm**. As of Sept. 18, the airline will fly between the two cities **twice a week**, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The route will be served by the Airbus A320 with 160 seats. Each flight will take between 4 and 4.5 hours. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

### SkyUp Airlines to launch two new routes between Prague and Ukraine

**SkyUp Airlines** will launch two new routes from Prague to **Ukraine's Kharkiv and Lviv**. As of Oct. 17, 2019, the airline will fly to both cities **twice a week**, on Thursdays and Sundays. The lines will be served by Boeing 737-800 aircraft with 189 seats. The Prague Airport expects some 60 thousand passengers to use the lines in both directions annually. More at [www.skyup.aero](http://www.skyup.aero).

### Over 91 million passengers traveled with Czech Railways in the first half of the year

The total of **91.6 million passengers** used the **Czech Railways** in the first half of this year, over two million more than in the same period of 2018. The company recorded a 300 million CZK profit in the first six months of the year.

## MICE

### REGENERATE. Global Forum reSITE 2019 Calls to Action for Happiness and Sustainability



The holder of the top award for Best Self-Produced Event of 2018, **reSITE** announces the theme for its upcoming **world-class forum: REGENERATE**. reSITE's global community of thinkers, urbanists and most innovative urban and business leaders from all parts of the planet will get together at Prague's Forum Karlin on **September 19–20, 2019**. reSITE 2019, called by The Atlantic Citylab “the most important conversation of our time,” will present 50 international speakers surrounded by a

1000+ audience. reSITE will share collective ideas, collaborative actions and design solutions within new event formats – intensive round tables, networking breakfasts and a big party. The latter will be included in the new type of entry for general public. Sept. 19–20, 2019, Forum Karlin, Prague. More at [www.pragueconvention.cz](http://www.pragueconvention.cz).

### Prague Ranked Ninth Best Meeting Destination in Europe by Cvent

**Prague** has been ranked **ninth** on Cvent's annual list of the **TOP 25 Meeting Destinations in Europe**. The list is annually compiled by **Cvent**, the venue sourcing network and MICE business booking platform, based on meeting and event booking activity across the Cvent site. The list is led by London, Berlin and Barcelona, with Munich concluding the TOP 10 destinations this year. Prague took the ninth place, three positions better than in the previous year. More at [www.pragueconvention.cz](http://www.pragueconvention.cz).

## People



### Marek Němec leaves Siam Travel International

**Marek Němec** of the **Siam Travel International** sold his 50-per cent stake in Siam Travel International, a tour operator with a 27-year history on the Czech market, to **Zdeněk Kříž**, the other co-owner and will leave the company's management on Sept. 1. Zdeněk Kříž will become the sole owner and CEO of the company. Mr. Němec has been appointed honorary consul of Sri Lanka in the Czech Republic and will also be managing a hotel resort he owns on the island.

### Zuzana Vojtová appointed director of the Central Bohemian tourist board

**Zuzana Vojtová** has been appointed director of the **Central Bohemia Tourist Board** last month. Mrs. Vojtová, former head of the South Moravian tourist board and later manager of the B2B communication department at the CzechTourism agency, replaced Marek Černoš at the post. Černoš led the tourist board since the unexpected resignation of the former director Markéta Wernerová. More at [www.kr-stredocesky.cz](http://www.kr-stredocesky.cz).

## Data & Research

### Almost two fifths of Czechs will skip summer vacation

**39 percent of Czechs will skip summer vacation** this year, according to a poll carried out by the Profesia.cz portal. 23 percent plan vacation abroad, 16 percent will combine vacation abroad with domestic vacation and 11 percent plan vacation in the Czech Republic only. Eleven percent will enjoy only prolonged weekends over the summer season.

### Czech Republic among TOP 10 countries in terms of sustainable development

Newly updated **UN Sustainable Development Report 2019** ranked the Czech Republic as the **seventh most developed** in achieving the Goals of Sustainable Development among 162 evaluated countries. The report is annually published by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung. The study monitors 17 criteria and examines how each country meets them. The Czech Republic's overall score in the ranking amounted to 80.7 points, which is about 3.9 % above the regional average. Czechia is doing well especially within the following indexes: no poverty, quality of education, affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, reduced social inequalities and nature protection. In these areas, the Czech Republic should meet the set goals in 2030 with no problems. On the other hand, significant challenges remain in areas such as climate protection or gender equality.

## PRODUCT NEWS

### Culture

#### Helmut Newton in Dialogue. Fashions and Fictions.



The exhibition **Helmut Newton in Dialogue** has been prepared by **Museum Kampa** in cooperation with the **Kicken Berlin**. It exhibits photographs by the famous German-Australian photographer Helmut Newton and puts them in the context of interwar photography and compares them with the work of his contemporaries. The exhibition is divided into four sections, presenting step-by-step Newton's sources of inspiration (Erwin Blumenfeld, František Drtikol, Horst P. Horst, George

Hoyningen-Huene, etc.) and his most prolific creative period from 1950 to 2000. The exhibition also includes works by Newton's contemporaries (Irving Penn, Richard Avedon, etc.). The exhibition is crowned by the section entitled "Czech Traces", where a selection of works by Tono Stano and Gabina Fárová from the late 1980s and early 1990s is presented (they both contributed to Newton's making of several of his photographs while in Prague in 1988). Through Oct. 28, 2019, Museum Kampa, Prague. More at [www.museumkampa.cz](http://www.museumkampa.cz).

## King Kong Ball statue installed in front of InterContinental Prague

Monumental **King Kong Balls** statue by French artist **Denis Defrancesco** has been installed in front of the **InterContinental hotel** in downtown Prague. The five-meter provocative bronze statue is part of the **Sculpture Line** festival. More at [www.icprague.com](http://www.icprague.com).

## Emil Filla – Hercules Fights the Bull

The small **Emil Filla** exhibition (1882–1953) with the title **Heracles Fights the Bull** presents the painter's graphic work from the 1930s and 1940s, namely the cycle **Fights and Struggles** (1937) and the album **Heracles** (1945) reflecting Filla's fight against the demons of his time through the Greek mythological hero Heracles. Aug. 8 – Nov. 17, 2019, Trade Fair Palace, Prague. More at [www.ngprague.cz](http://www.ngprague.cz).

## Havel for President! The Year 1989 in Photographs

How did Czech photographers and artists capture the **year 1989**? The exhibition in the Trade Fair Palace seeks to commemorate the **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Velvet Revolution**. It also seeks to examine the year 1989, which was a turning point in many respects; not only for Czech society, but also for photography. The year 1989 was exceptional not only in terms of political events, but also for the medium that recorded them – photography. In that year, several exhibitions commemorated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official announcement of the discovery of photography. Nov. 11, 2019 – Feb. 2, 2020, **Trade Fair Palace, Prague**. More at [www.ngprague.cz](http://www.ngprague.cz).

## St Agnes of Bohemia, All Saints, Pray for Us

The exhibition will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the **Agnes of Bohemia's canonization**. Legend has it that Bohemia would not prosper until Agnes' canonization. She was canonized just five days before the Velvet Revolution started, confirming the old legend. Nov. 12, 2019 – Jan. 30, 2020, **Artinbox Gallery, Prague**. More at [www.prague.eu](http://www.prague.eu).

## International Organ Festival in Olomouc

The 51<sup>st</sup> edition of **International Organ Festival in Olomouc** will offer five concerts by renowned organ players. Between Sept. 5 – 19, Richard Brasier of Great Britain, Maurice Clerc of France, Michał Markuszewski of Poland, Giampaolo Di Rosa and Czech Pavel Svoboda will play the extraordinary organs in the St Maurice Church and the St Wenceslas Cathedral in the city Olomouc. More at [www.mfo.cz](http://www.mfo.cz).

# Cities, communities & regions

## Tours of Pilsen's historical underground

Tours of the **labyrinth** of areas and **corridors** under the town of **Pilsen**, that used to serve for food storage, beer brewing or as a defense system in times of upheavals. Last week of August, every day at 5 p.m. More at [www.prazdrojvisit.cz](http://www.prazdrojvisit.cz).

## New project in Luhačovice

Visitors of the spa town of **Luhačovice** can now use the town's new **sound map** and be guided through the town by famous personalities that changed its history, such as architect Dušan Jurkovič, composer Leoš Janáček or founder of the modern spa doctor Veselý. The

new guide can be downloaded as a mobile application or can be borrowed in the Luhačovice information center.

## The Czech Republic now has 14 UNESCO World Heritage Sites



The **Czech Republic** has two new **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, bringing the country's total to 14. The World Heritage Committee at its meeting in Baku decided to inscribe the **Erzgebirge / Krušnohoří Mining Region** and the **Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem**. The Erzgebirge / Krušnohoří Mining Region spans part of southeastern Germany and northwestern Czech Republic,

and is rich in metal ore exploited through mining from Middle Ages onward. The Czech side has five areas, the mining cultural landscapes of Jáchymov, Abertamy – Boží Dar – Horní Blatná, and Krupka, plus Mědník Hill and the “Red Tower of Death” (Rudá věž smrti) at Ostrov. The German part of the site has 17 locations. The Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem consists of flat, sandy soils and includes fields, fenced pastures, a forested area and buildings, all designed for breeding and training Kladruber horses, a type of draft horse used in ceremonies by the Habsburg imperial court. It is one of Europe's leading horse-breeding institutions. More at [www.unesco-czech.cz](http://www.unesco-czech.cz).

## New map of lookout towers in Central Bohemia

The **Central Bohemia Tourist Board** has published a new **map of lookout towers** in the region. The map includes 30 lookout towers with useful information, such as how high each tower is, how many steps the visitor has to climb, what are the opening hours or how much is the admission fee. It also includes brief description of the surrounding landscape to make clear what view can the visitors expect. More at [www.centralbohemia.cz](http://www.centralbohemia.cz).

## Events

### 4+4 DAYS IN MOTION

The **International festival of contemporary art 4+4 Days in Motion** offers currents interesting, provocative projects combining different genres – dance and theatre performances, exhibitions, audio-visual projects, discussions and guided tours. The first edition of the festival was held in 1996; its aim is to present contemporary innovative theatre projects. American performer Jeremy Wade will open the theater part of the festival with his new piece The Clearing. Detailed program of the festival will be released in September. **Oct.4 –12, 2019**, Prague. More at [www.ctyridny.cz](http://www.ctyridny.cz).

## Technology & Dictatorship



The exhibition commemorating the **30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution** will showcase **technological means** used by the former communist state **to suppress basic human freedoms** and also the means used by individuals and groups to **express their resistance** or illegally leave the country. Main focus is put on the time of the so called normalization in the 1970s and 80s. The exhibition was prepared in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Military Institute

Prague. **Oct. 9, 2019 – March 3, 2020, National Technical Museum, Prague.** More at [www.prague.eu](http://www.prague.eu).