

# NEWSLETTER

## for foreign offices

November 2019

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## TRADE NEWS

### Hotels & restaurants



#### Mamaison Residence Downtown Prague reopened after reconstruction

Last month, the four-star **Mamaison Residence Downtown Prague** reopened after reconstruction. Costs of the year-long reconstruction exceeded 400 million CZK. The hotel near Prague's central Wenceslas Square now offers accommodation in 85 rooms and 88 apartments with fully equipped kitchenettes, and similarly to the remaining hotels of the CPI Hotels chain, aims at minimizing its environmental impact as much as possible.

#### Ayurvedic pavilion of the Svatá Kateřina Resort wins the Building of the Year award



The newly built **Ayurvedic pavilion** at the **Svatá Kateřina Resort** in the region of Vysočina placed among six buildings awarded the Building of the Year title in a prominent competition organized by the Foundation for development of architecture. More at [www.stavbaroku.cz](http://www.stavbaroku.cz).

### Transportation



#### Direct flights to 121 destinations from Václav Havel Airport

The **Václav Havel Airport Prague** offers direct flights to **121 destinations** in **46 countries** within the winter flight schedule, six more than in the same period of last year. New destinations that have been added this winter include **Lviv, Kharkiv, Chisinau, Florence, Beirut, Nur-Sultan** and **Keflavik**. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

#### Ryanair announces two new Prague routes to Greece

**Ryanair** has announced two new **Prague** routes to **Rhodes** and **Thessaloniki** in Greece, both with a twice weekly service as part of Ryanair's Czech Republic summer 2020 schedule. The carrier will use Boeing 737-800 with up to 189 seats. According to Prague Airport's estimates, more than 40 thousand passengers could use the service annually in both directions. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

## World of Airports allows players to manage an airport

**World of Airports**, a new **management game** for mobile devices developed in cooperation with Prague Airport offers an authentic **virtual environment** in which each player manages an airport and his or her own airline. Players handle individual flights, generating funds to gradually build their own aircraft fleet, establish new connections and expand the capacity of their home airport. In addition to Václav Havel Airport Prague, which is the most elaborate in the game, players are given the opportunity to manage also the airports in Innsbruck and Bari. World of Airports is now available for iOS and Android mobile devices and can be downloaded for free from the App Store and Google Play. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

## Prague Airport receives Aa3 rating from Moody's

**Moody's Investors Service** has upgraded Prague Airport's **credit rating** by one notch to **Aa3** from A1 and changed its outlook from positive to stable. This action follows Moody's recent decision to change the rating of the Czech Republic in the same way. Prague Airport continues to achieve the highest possible rating in the country. The key reasons for this upgrade include stable cash flow, competitive airport charges, the company's excellent financial profile and its crucial role in national infrastructure. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

## Prague Airport to restrict single-use plastics

**Prague Airport** is launching a program called **Fly Plastic Free**, which aims to **restrict the consumption of single-use plastics** within the airport. The program wants to motivate passengers to use these kinds of plastics as little as possible or, ideally, not at all. That can be helped by a new system of sinks and drinking fountains. Passengers can simply pour water out of their bottle into a sink before the security check and once they have passed through security check they can refill their empty bottle with drinking water free of charge using one of the 13 drinking fountains available throughout the terminals. Passengers can already try out the first sink in Terminal 2, more sinks are planned soon. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

## Prague Airport in summer handled 6% more passengers than last year

**Prague Airport** experienced a **6%** increase in the number of passengers handled during the peak summer season from July to September, a total of 5,812,597 passengers passed through the gates of Václav Havel Airport Prague during that period. Although August was the busiest month, Prague Airport saw the highest year-to-year increase in passenger numbers in September. As usual, London remained the most visited travel destination, whereas Antalya became the most popular holiday destination. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

## SkyUp Airlines launched flights from Prague to Lviv and Kharkiv

**SkyUp Airlines**, a Ukrainian low-cost carrier, launched scheduled flights connecting **Prague** with **Lviv** and **Kharkiv**. Direct flights from Václav Havel Airport Prague to the two destinations will be available to passengers twice a week, on Thursdays and Sundays. The new routes will be operated by Boeing 737-800 aircraft with 189 seats. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).

## Czech Airlines to expand its fleet with seven new Airbus aircraft

**Czech Airlines** has reached an agreement with the airliner manufacturer **Airbus** to purchase **four new A220-300 aircraft**. At the same time, the originally ordered A320neo planes will be replaced by three long-haul A321XLR aircraft. Two Airbus A220 planes will be included in the ČSA fleet by the end of next year, the other two in early 2021. The A321XLR will be delivered in 2025.

## MICE

### Smart Energy Forum



The 5th annual **international conference** and **exhibition** on the present and the future of **modern decentralized energy**. The topics will be the following: new legislation for connecting hybrid systems, subsidies and funding opportunities, construction of new sources, practical solutions in the area of energy self-sufficiency, introduction of new products in the field of energy storage. Nov. 18–19, 2019. Prague Congress Center. More at [www.smartenergyforum.cz](http://www.smartenergyforum.cz).

## People

### Jiří Černík appointed member of the Prague's airport board of directors



**Jiří Černík** was appointed **member of the Board of Directors** of the **Prague Airport**. He will be in charge of finance, purchasing and information technology. He comes to the Prague Airport from Skanska, where he served as Chief Financial Officer. More at [www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero).



### Tomáš Svoboda appointed member of CSAH board of directors

**Tomáš Svoboda** has been appointed new **member of the Board of Directors** of **Czech Airlines Handling**. CSAH provides passenger, aircraft, cargo and mail handling services at the Prague's Václav Havel Airport. More at [www.czechairlineshandling.com](http://www.czechairlineshandling.com).

### Director of Pardubice Tourist information center recalled from her post

The municipality of the town of Pardubice recalled **Marina Vačatová** from the post of the **director of the Tourist information center**. Vačatová was replaced by her deputy Markéta Dolečková who will lead the center until a new director is found. Applications for the job have to be submitted by Nov. 22.

## Data & Research

### One third of Czechs to visit Czech mountains this winter



According to a study by the **Association of Mountain Resorts**, interest in winter holiday in the mountains among Czech has significantly grown over the past three years. In the upcoming winter season, 43% of Czechs plan to visit mountains. 36% plan to visit Czech mountains, 7% plan to travel abroad. More at [www.ahscr.cz](http://www.ahscr.cz).

### Prague among 20 most beautiful cities of the world

In a poll carried out by **Flight Network**, a Canada based travel agency, **Prague** placed **14<sup>th</sup>** among twenty **most beautiful cities** of the world. Paris placed first in the poll carried out among over 1,000 travel agencies and travel journalists. More at [www.flightnetwork.com](http://www.flightnetwork.com).

### South Bohemia visited above all by tourists from Prague and Central Bohemia

According to a recently released analysis by the tourist board of **South Bohemia**, the region is visited above all by tourists from **Prague** and **Central Bohemia**. **Germans** and **Austrians** prevail among foreign visitors. South Bohemia received nearly 6.5 million visitors last year. Of the total of 3.4 million domestic visitors, almost every second arrived from Prague or Central Bohemia (47.58 %). Germans and Austrians accounted for over one third of foreign visitors (37.56%).

### The most popular castles

**Karlštejn** was the **most visited castle** in **Central Bohemia** this season, with 184,000 visitors from the beginning of the year till the end of September. **Konopiště** placed second with 131,000 visitors, followed by **Křivoklát** with 85,000.

## PRODUCT NEWS

### Culture



#### Robert Guttman – Painter and Traveler of Prague

The exhibition presents works of **Prague naive artist Robert Guttman** created between the two world wars. Jewish Museum, Prague. Nov. 7, 2019 – Aug. 23, 2020. More at [www.prague.eu](http://www.prague.eu).

#### Line, light, shade

Exhibition in the recently reopened Schwarzenberg Palace offers selected masterpieces of **European prints and drawings** from the 16th and 17th centuries. Nov. 6, 2019 – Feb. 10, 2020. Schwarzenberg Palace, Prague. More at [www.ngprague.cz](http://www.ngprague.cz).

#### Rudolf Firkušný Piano Festival

The 7th edition of the **Rudolf Firkušný Piano Festival** will offer five great concerts. The world virtuoso Evgeny Kissin will perform Beethoven's pieces; Marc-André Hamelin's recital will include works by various composers. For the first time, Beatrice Dana will attend the event – playing Chopin, Albéniz and Stravinski; Jan Bartoš was selected to represent domestic artists. Jazz lovers can look forward to Aaron Diehl Trio. Prague, various places. Nov. 17 – 23, 2019. More at [www.firkusny.cz](http://www.firkusny.cz).

#### Czech Touches of Music

The international music festival **Czech Touches of Music** is among the seven greatest festivals of classical music in the Czech Republic. The 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the festival will offer concerts by number of great artist, such as Marius Stravinsky, Zsolt Hamar, Maria Włoszczowska or Claudi Arimany. Prague, various places. Dec. 16, 2019 – Jan. 6, 2020. More at [www.ceskedotekyhudby.cz](http://www.ceskedotekyhudby.cz).

#### Living in art

The exhibition, opening together with the new display of 19<sup>th</sup> century art at the **Trade Fair Palace**, presents the theme of the **architectural décor of residential buildings** of the 19<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It focuses at the painted, sculpted, and stucco ornamentation of the interior and exterior of rental buildings, as well as of the palaces and villas commissioned by various entrepreneurs. Trade Fair Palace, Prague. Nov. 15, 2019 – Feb. 2, 2020. More at [www.ngprague.cz](http://www.ngprague.cz).

## Cities, communities & regions

### Jan Palach's memorial open to public



The **National Museum** has opened a memorial to Jan Palach, the student who set himself on fire in 1969 to protest the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion into the then Czechoslovakia. The long-deserted house in Všetaty near Prague where Palach was born was purchased by the museum in 2014 and now offers, among other things, a multimedia exhibition. More at [www.nm.cz](http://www.nm.cz).

### Ossuary near Kutná Hora to ban photography

As of January next year, **photography will be banned** in the **Kutná Hora's ossuary** and in the nearby **Cathedral of the Assumption of Our Lady** and **St John the Baptist**. The ossuary sees about half a million visitors each year. Many of them make inappropriate selfies in the ossuary and even tamper with the bones to achieve better images.

## Events



### Czech Design Week

**Czech Design Week** is a design show presenting artists from the independent scene. It displays the most interesting works of Czech and foreign artists with an emphasis on authenticity and personal vision. Prague Congress Center, Dec. 9 – 15, 2019. More at [www.praguecc.cz](http://www.praguecc.cz).

### Christmas tree to be lit up at Brno's Freedom Square

On Friday, Nov. 29, **Christmas tree** will be lit up at the **Freedom Square** in **Brno**. Brno was the first city in then Czechoslovakia and most probably in all central Europe where Christmas tree appeared 95 years ago. Freedom Square (nám. Svobody), Nov. 29, 2019, 5 p.m. More at [www.gotobrno.cz](http://www.gotobrno.cz).

### Christmas Market at the Dobříš Chateau

**Christmas market** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 at the historical courtyard of the **Dobříš Chateau** from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The market will be held under the auspices of **Mrs. Livie Colloredo-Mannsfeld**. More at [www.zamekdobris.cz](http://www.zamekdobris.cz).

### Inca's Gold

The exhibition, spread over more than 2,000 m<sup>2</sup>, depicts the history of settlement in the **Americas**. Visitors can see dozens of real gold exhibits lent to the Czech Republic by the

**Peruvian government.** Brno Exhibition Grounds, pavilion C. Through Jan. 31, 2020. More at [www.gotobrna.cz](http://www.gotobrna.cz).