

NEWSLETTER

for foreign offices

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TRADE NEWS

Hotels & restaurants

Changes in Le Hotels Group



Le Hotels Group, a hotel group belonging to the parent company Le-Investment spol. s r.o., improves the standard of premises it manages and at the same time grows by another member. This year's main innovation is the **reconstruction of conference facilities at the Grandium Hotel Prague**. The hotel now offers a total of 9 variable rooms with built-in projection technologies on a total area of 704 sq. m. The main meeting room can accommodate over 300 participants and has a total of 5

built-in projections. Other conference halls offer facilities for more than 230 people. In October, Le Hotels Group took over **Hotel Meteor Plaza**, a four-star hotel in downtown Prague. More at www.pragueconvention.cz.

Prague's Hotel Carlo IV changes hands

Hotel Carlo IV in downtown Prague has been sold to a **French real estate group Covivio**. Covivio owns about 400 hotels in Europe, acquisition of this luxury five-star hotels marks its first entry to the hotel market of central and east Europe.

Vienna House Andel's Prague produces one of the best honeys in the Czech Republic

The bees from the **Vienna House Andel's Prague** hotel roof were awarded a **silver medal** for producing one of **the best honeys in the Czech Republic** in 2019. During the bee season this year, Vienna House in the Czech Republic placed beehives on the roofs of all its hotels to promote biodiversity. More at www.pragueconvention.cz.

Labská bouda in Krkonoše mountains closed through next spring

Hotel Labská bouda near the skiing resort of Špindlerův Mlýn in the Krkonoše mountains will be **closed through the end of April next year**. The hotel, located at 1,340 meters above sea level, is undergoing complex reconstruction.

Hyatt to enter Czech market

Hyatt Hotels Corporation announced that a Hyatt affiliate has entered into a management agreement for **the first Hyatt property in the Czech Republic**. The "Sugar Palace" hotel project, currently being developed by UBM Development AG, will become the new **Andaz Prague**. Located at Senovážné Square, the 175-room hotel is expected to open in 2022. More at www.pragueconvention.cz.

Transportation

LOT to connect Ostrava with Warsaw



As of March 30 next year, Polish airlines **LOT** will connect Ostrava with Warsaw. LOT will fly **from Ostrava to Warsaw** five times a week, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The route will be operated by the Bombardier Q400 and Embraer 170/175 aircraft with 70 to 82 seats.

Václav Havel, statesman and passenger

Marking the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, an exhibition opened at the **Prague Airport**. The joint project of the airport and the Vaclav Havel Library includes **16 period photographs depicting President Havel at the airport or on an airplane**. The photographs include pictures of Vaclav Havel with the Rolling Stones, Havel welcoming Pope John Paul II shortly after his arrival in Prague or a photograph showing the ceremony of renaming the airport after Havel. More at www.prg.aero.

Prague Airport heading towards carbon neutrality

Prague Airport expects to achieve carbon neutrality by reducing the net carbon dioxide emissions from its operations to zero **by 2030**. The purchase of 100% green electricity will greatly contribute to the airport's goal. In addition, Prague Airport once again upheld its international certification, **Airport Carbon Accreditation**, which independently evaluates airports' efforts to reduce their carbon footprint. More at www.prg.aero.

Rossiya Airlines to increase number of flights to Saint Petersburg



Rossiya Airlines will increase number of flights between Prague and Saint Petersburg. As of March 2020, the airline will add one more flight on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays to the current ten flights a week. The line will be serviced Arbus A320 Family aircraft. According to Prague Airport's estimates, over 20,000

passengers will use the four new flights in both directions during the season. More at www.prg.aero.

Ryanair ends route from Brno to Berlin

The low-cost carrier **Ryanair will end its route from Brno to Berlin** next spring. Ryanair launched the route in April, its last plane via Berlin will take off from Brno on March

28, 2020. The move **leaves the Brno airport with just two routes** – to Milan and London, both operated by Ryanair.

British Airways again the quietest airline at the Prague's Airport

For the second time in a row, the UK's largest international airline, **British Airways (BA)**, has won the **2019 Quietest Airline** contest organized by **Prague Airport** in cooperation with the Prague 6 Municipality. The contest traditionally takes place during the most intense air traffic operations at Prague Airport from 1 May to 31 October. More at www.prg.aero.

MICE

International conference Hydrogen Days to be held in Prague



The international conference **Hydrogen Days 2020** focusing on trends and applications in hydrogen technologies sector will take place in Prague at **Comfort Hotel Prague City East** on 25-27th March 2020. The 11th edition of the conference is organized by the Czech hydrogen technological platform (HYTEP). The conference annually attracts specialist and stakeholders from hydrogen technology sector. This year's

motto of the conference is **"Hydrogen on the move"**. Comfort Hotel Prague City East, March 25 – 27, 2020. More at www.hydrogendays.cz.

Czech Beer Forum 2020



The next edition of **Pivo Bier Ale EXPO** is coming. The accompanying program for 2020 will be new hop varieties, special malts and dried yeast. Take a look at the automatic bottling line for microbreweries or machine for beer filtration and microfiltration. **Prague Congress Center**. Jan. 28 – 30, 2020. More at www.pbaforum.cz.

Data & Research

Prague ranks 13th in the world in the quality of life index



Prague ranked 13th among 113 world cities in the quality of life index by D&L Partners, based on their 2019 PICSA index, which takes into account various criteria, including gross national product, availability of housing and medical care, and access to education. PICSA (The Prosperity & Inclusion City Seal and Awards) puts particular emphasis on social and economic justice. Prague managed an exceptionally good

position in the index, mainly due to safety and number of doctors. According to D&L Partners, **the capital has one of the densest networks of surgeries in the world.** The list was topped by Vienna followed by Zurich, **Brno ranked 58th.**

Numbers of tourists in Prague slightly increasing

Prague received almost 6 million visitors in the first nine months of 2019, an increase of 1.7 percent compared to the same period of last year. Only tourists from Ukraine, Japan and France recorded a two-digit increase of 23, 19 and 10 percent, respectively. From January to September, some **5.07 million foreign tourists** arrived to Prague, a year-to-year increase of 1.4 percent, while the number of **domestic visitors** rose by 3.4 percent to **900,000**. More at www.praguecitytourism.cz.

Czech Republic among top 20 countries with most expensive shopping streets

Czech Republic placed for the second time in a row among the world's top twenty countries with the most expensive shopping strips. In the annual **Main Streets Across The World 2019** list by **Cushman & Wakefield**, the **Czech Republic placed 18th** with Prague's **Na Příkopě** street where the maximum monthly rent amounts to 235 EUR per square meter. Czech Republic is the only country of central and eastern Europe to place among the top 20. More at www.cushmanwakefield.cz.

PRODUCT NEWS

Culture

The Illusionists

The Illusionists, the magic elite, return to the **Prague Congress Center**, where they will once again present a breathtaking show full of exciting tricks. From stage illusions, through reading of thoughts, to escaping from handcuffs or water traps and welcome visitors in a world where they do not distinguish reality from illusion. Prague Congress Center. Jan. 29 – Feb. 9, 2020. More at www.praguecc.cz.

Miracle Factory



Miracle Factory is an original show by Czech mentalist and illusionist **Michal Nesveda**. Michal focuses on mentalist experiments that deceive the audience and convince them that there are things that defy logical explanation. The show will include one of the most famous tricks by the legendary **Harry Houdini** – an escape from a 1000-litre water tank. The audience will also learn how to pick up lottery numbers. On the stage, there will also be a time machine that will bring the audience back to their childhood. The show takes place in Divadlo Pod Palmovkou in January and February. For more info, [click HERE](#).

Stanislav Sucharda 1866 – 1916: The creative process

The exhibition **Stanislav Sucharda 1866–1916: A Creative Process** presents a major Czech sculptor of the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, whose multifarious work combines an interaction between regions and the country's capital, the transformation from 19th-century traditions to modernism and the gradual local acceptance of progressive European styles. **Trade Fair Palace**, Prague. Through April 5, 2020. More at www.ngprague.cz.

Two centuries of Czech portrait painting

This exhibition of Czech portrait painting will include works of **Josef Mánes** and his followers such as **Mikoláš Aleš**, **Josef Brožík**, **František Ženíšek**, **Vojtěch Hynais** or portraits of Czech Moderna representatives - **Emil Filla**, **Antonín Procházka**, **Bohumil Kubišta**, **Jan Zrzavý**, **Otakar Kubín**, **Václav Špála**, **Alfréd Justiz**. Works of **František Kupka**, **Jožo Uprka**, **Jan Preisler**, **Miloš Jiránek** or paintings of **Max Švabinský** and **Ludvík Kuba** will be on display too. Surrealists will be represented by **Jindřich Štyrský** and **Toyon** and their “relatives” – **Josef Šíma**, **Alois Wachsman**, **Adolf Hoffmeister**. Organizers will also put on display selected artworks created in 1940's or 1960's and some contemporary portraits. Prague Castle, Imperial Stables, Dec. 18, 2019 – March 22, 2020. More at www.prague.eu.

Cubist drawings by Otto Gutfreund

The exhibition displays drawings by Czech sculptor **Otto Gutfreund** (1889–1927), member of the Group of Fine Artists. His drawings border between fine art and preparatory studies. Human figure was the sculptor's main topic that he subjected to Cubist style shape deformations during 1910–1914. **Trade Fair Palace**, Prague. Through Feb. 10, 2020. More at www.ngprague.cz.

Bořek Šípek: Retrospect



Šípek's works admired for the extravagant shapes and playful colourfulness have their place in famous galleries and museums all over the world such as Paris, London, New York, Tokyo or Shanghai. At the **exhibition** in Prague, which is spread across three floors of the **Dancing House Gallery**, visitors will see almost 300 art & decorative works including furniture, lamps, crystal chandeliers, vases, bowls or glass sculptures and other decorative items. Dancing House Gallery, Prague. Through March 22, 2020. More at www.galerietancidum.cz.

Cirque du Soleil at Letná

A white big top at **Letná** will host **Totem** by **Cirque du Soleil** next summer from **July 17 to August 2**. A journey into the evolution of mankind, Totem follows the human species from original amphibian state to ultimate desire to fly. The characters evolve on a stage, evoking a giant turtle, the symbol of origin for many ancient civilizations. Totem explores the ties that bind man to other species, his dreams and his infinite potential. Letná, Prague. July 17 – Aug. 2, 2020. More at www.cirquedusoleil.com.

Cities, communities & regions



The World of jellyfish in the Arkády Pankrác shopping mall

Over **10 thousand of jellyfish species** in 38 aquariums in the newly opened World of jellyfish are the newest attraction of the Prague's **Arkády Pankrác** shopping mall. More at www.arkady-pankrac.cz.

Luhačovice Spa won European Destination of Excellence title on a national level

The **Spa of Luhačovice** won the national level of the **European Destination of Excellence 2019** contest (EDEN), organized by the European Commission. The project "Well, well ... the Spa of Luhačovice" placed first among a total of 12 contestants.

Two simulators in one place

Visitors of Prague can recreate their experience from their **flight**, but this time in the role of a **pilot** of Boeing 737-800 aircraft! In the **simulator** and under the guidance of a professional pilot, you can take off, for instance, from Václav Havel Airport Prague and land on any of 24,000

airports of the world. In the same house, you can also try a **Formula 1** racing car simulator, with the help of a racing instructor. Bookings at www.myairlines.cz and www.myrace.cz.

Ice skating at Ovocný trh

One of the most popular outdoor skating rinks, located in the center of Prague, is **open daily from 10 am to 9 pm**. Free admission, rent of skates for fee. Through Jan. 31, 2020. More at www.prague.eu.

Ice skating rink at Letná

The largest **skating rink in Prague at Letná** is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The main skating rink has an area of 40 x 20 meters, the smaller children´s rink has an area of 22 x 10 meters. Heated tent, refreshment and skates for rent also available. **Free admission**. Through March 1, 2020. More at www.prague.eu.

Events

Go and Regiontour Brno

The fair is **the largest presentation of the tourism industry** with emphasis on regions **in Central Europe**. **Regiontour** is a key project to support domestic and incoming tourism in the Czech Republic. Its participants include crucial entities and decision-makers in tourism of the Czech Republic and its regions. The **GO Fair** focuses on outbound tourism. In addition to domestic travel agencies, providers of tourism services in popular foreign destinations and foreign tourist centers take part. BVV, Brno. Jan 16 – 19, 2020. More at www.bvv.cz/go-regiontour.