

Newsletter

for Foreign Offices



Baťa Canal



Trade news

Hotels & Restaurants
Transport
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MICE



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Culture & Sport





Medieval monastery brewery at Hotel Augustine reopens

Augustine, a Luxury Collection Hotel, has reopened the U Svatého Tomáše beer hall in Prague's Malá Strana. This is now also accessible from the adjacent Letenská Street. The history of these underground spaces housing the famous bar goes back to 1352. Not only can guests now enjoy the unique atmosphere here, but the beer hall is also available for private events for up to 55 people. Rental is possible according to capacity and prices are tailored for each event separately based on organizer requirements.

[Find out more >](#)

Ondřej Matiašek becomes Hotel Olšanka manager

Until recently marketing manager of at Congress & Wellness Hotel Olšanka hotel, Ondřej Matiašek has been appointed to the position of general director. He replaces Martin Gerstman who will continue as an executive in the company. Ondřej Matiašek has worked at Hotel Olšanka in various positions for over 12 years and therefore takes up his new position armed with vast experience in the operational side of this major hotel complex. Through his experience as a Marketing Manager, he has acquired a deep understanding of marketing strategies, resource management and customer relations, providing him with a strong foundation for this new role.

[Find out more >](#)



Overnight in a wigwam by the Baťa Canal

The Skleníky Spytihněv leisure complex near Napajedly, has expanded its accommodation facilities with the addition of an Indian wigwam. This spacious tent, complete with beds, bedside tables and lighting, comfortably accommodates four people, is heated and can therefore be used all year round. Guests must have their own blanket or sleeping bag. On summer days, the swimming pool is at guests' disposal, and they can enjoy mini golf, beach volleyball, table tennis and tennis.

[Find out more >](#)





Prague Airport in the first 6 months of 2024: Over 7 million passengers

In the first six months of the year, Prague Václav Havel Airport handled over seven million passengers, a year-on-year increase of almost a quarter. The volume of passengers in the first half of the year was at 92% of the record year of 2019. The greatest number of flights were to and from Great Britain, Italy, Spain, France and Germany.

[Find out more >](#)

Czech Railways to improve travelling between Poland and Czechia

The biggest new feature on long-distance international and domestic trains in the 2025 Czech Railways timetable will be the introduction of four pairs of Baltic express trains from Prague to Gdynia. Michal Krapinec, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Czech Railways, stated: "International cooperation with PKP Intercity means we can offer direct connections between Prague and Pardubice with Kladsko, Wrocław, Poznań, Bydgoszcz and the Tri-City on the Baltic Sea coast. This will make journeys significantly simpler and speed up travel times between Czechia and Poland. For example, the journey time between Prague and Gdańsk should be cut by about three hours.

[Find out more >](#)



Czechia attracting more tourists

In the second quarter of this year, a total of six million guests stayed at hotels, guest houses and other accommodation facilities in this country. Some 54% (3.2 million) of these were domestic tourists, while 46% (2.8 million) were visitors from abroad. From April to June 2024, the country was most often selected as a holiday destination by travellers from neighbouring countries (Germany – 631,000, Poland – 253,000 and Slovakia – 247,000). Tourists from the USA (161,000) and Great Britain (121,000) also arrived in greater numbers. The number of foreign visitors who stayed in official accommodation facilities increased year-on-year by 9.3%, while the number of domestic guests decreased by 1.4%.

[Find out more >](#)



Vienna House by Wyndham Andel's Prague upgrades conference facilities

The conference facilities at the Vienna House by Wyndham Andel's Prague Hotel have recently undergone complete renovation which has improved the way they work as well as their design. Newly installed features provide a fresh, modern look as well as improving acoustics and general comfort levels. In addition, the rooms have been equipped with the latest AV technology which ensures trouble-free presentations and the option of holding hybrid events. Technical infrastructure capacity has also been increased to support the modern requirement of high-speed internet in such facilities.

[Find out more >](#)

Occidental Prague goes with the latest trends in the conference sector

Cooperating with AV and conference professionals, the four-star Occidental Prague, part of the Barceló Hotel Group, has created a new conference concept called "Flexi Meeting Room". The hotel offers guests 230 rooms and nine meeting spaces, the largest boasting a capacity of up to 300 people. All of the meeting spaces are located on the same floor and all except two are equipped with sliding wall dividers which can be positioned according to what the client requests.

[Find out more >](#)



Product news

Towns & Regions

Prague

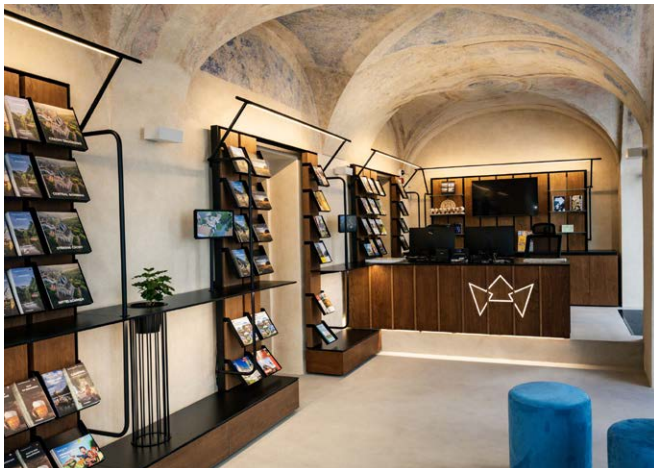


New eateries in Bubeneč's wastewater treatment plant

In early August, new eateries were opened in a significant piece of industrial heritage, the old wastewater treatment plant in Prague's Bubeneč neighbourhood. These should improve the quality of refreshments on offer as well as offering art displays, discussion forums and lectures. The new operator of the museum in the wastewater treatment plant in Bubeneč, the municipal firm TCP a.s., chose the tenant for the cafe and seasonal bar in the barn in an open tender. The winner was the Petrohradská kolektiv.

[Find out more >](#)

Central Bohemia Region



SCCR info centre in Prague reopens

First opened in 2017, the information centre belonging to the Central Bohemian Tourist Board (SCCR) has undergone complete renovation. The aim was to modernize the space as well as expand services offered to include the sale of regional products. The new sales point offers visitors the chance to buy a wide range of items from producers from across Central Bohemia. This includes wine, honey, herbal teas, chocolate, jams and sirups. There will also be glass items, cosmetics and handmade jewellery.

[Find out more >](#)

New gold exhibition in Jílové

This September, the Regional Museum in Jílové u Prahy opened a new, permanent gold exhibition which really has the wow factor. Five rooms packed with sparkling wonders contain a display on Edward Kelley, a mock-up of a gold mine with interactive elements, an insight into the lives of medieval miners, a peek at the largest gold nugget in the world, a model of the Chapel of the Holy Cross with Emperor Charles IV himself present, the chance to hold a replica gold bar and many other memorable experiences.

[Find out more >](#)



Ústí Region

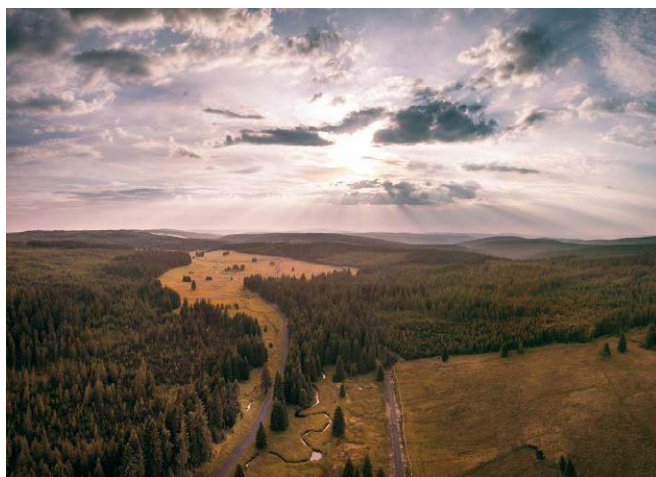


New tours at Ploskovice Chateau

The National Monuments Institute has made the newly restored piano nobile of the main building of the Ploskovice State Castle accessible to the visiting public. The wonderful interiors furnished and decorated for the retired Austrian emperor Ferdinand V and his wife Maria Anna offer an insight into the private suites that the imperial couple occupied in the chateau in the 19th century. The creation of the new tour cost a total of seven million crowns. The launch of the new tour is part of the project called The Habsburgs - A home in the Czech Lands, which is part of the long-term National Monument Institute project entitled In the Footsteps of the Aristocracy.

[Find out more >](#)

Karlovy Vary Region



Jáchymov opens new UNESCO-listed mining heritage visitors centre

The Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří mining region is a piece of UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage in the Carlsbad Region. New visitor centres to be built on both sides of the mountain range are intended to provide information about this unique location to tourists. In the Carlsbad Region, a historical building (No. 8) in Jáchymov has been chosen for this purpose. The plan was approved by the Regional Assembly at one of their last meetings.

[Find out more >](#)

Pilsen Region

New tour at Pilsen city hall

Tours offered by the Visit Pilsen tourist information centre from this August include regular guided tours of the historical Pilsen city hall. In addition to the Luděk Pik Hall where Pilsen City Council hold meetings around a circular table, the ceremonial hall, the adjacent registry office and other representative spaces, including the monumental staircase, the tour also take visitors to the deputies' club, the so-called Eiffelka. City hall tours run every Friday at 16:00.

[Find out more >](#)



South Bohemian Region



The České Budějovice District has new guest card

Guests staying two nights or longer in České Budějovice and Hluboká nad Vltavou will receive a virtual discount card called Bud'Karta - Budějovická karta. The most interesting benefits include a free guided tour of the city, a 50% discount at Hluboká Zoo and a half-price entry to the Hluboká grounds. The number of participating hotels and attractions is expected to increase. Information is currently available in English and German.

[Find out more >](#)

Vysočina Region



New tour at the chateau in Žďár nad Sázavou

Once a monastery, the chateau in Žďár nad Sázavou can now be seen on a new tour called "There and Back through the Monastery and Chateau". Visitors will see the Brewery Courtyard, one of the oldest functioning fish hatcheries in Europe, admire the First Courtyard with its Marian Column and Santini's self-supporting staircase. In the Old Abbey, they can take a look at unfinished reconstruction work from bygone days, visit the prelatore built by Santini, and view an exhibition focusing on the chateau's recent history.

[Find out more >](#)

Hradec Králové Region

The hkregion.cz tourism website gets a new look

The Hradec Králové Regional Tourist Board has launched a revamped tourism website - www.hkregion.cz. The basic reason for the changes was the behaviour of visitors to the website and the way browsers work with websites. The goal was to create a website that is as clear as possible and convenient for users. The tourist board also took into consideration important topics such as sustainable travel and accessibility. Thematic tiles offer tips on activities in the region, help with faster navigation on the site and facilitate easier searches for information. The menu can be altered seasonally as needed. An integrated AI assistant will also be added to the website this autumn.

[Find out more >](#)

Zlín Region



Treasury of the Great Moravian Empire - new attraction on the Cyril & Methodius Trail

At the end of June, the Great Moravian Treasury was opened at the Open-Air Archaeological Museum in Modrá u Velehradu. This is an underground pantheon into which day-light penetrates only through the bell tower, visible above ground. The rarest originals or copies of objects from graves in the area - from Uherské Hradiště-Sady, Staré Město, Modrá, Mikulčice and Pohansko u Břeclavi for instance - are exhibited here in bulletproof display cases and under the strictest of security.

[Find out more >](#)





New access path to Sovinec Castle

The village of Jiříkov has put forward the idea of building an access path from the car parking which would provide people with a safer route directly to the castle. An unpleasant walk along a dangerous road will turn into a leisurely stroll on a themed trail that presents the history of Sovinec castle and the nature of the Low Jeseníky Mountains in an entertaining way. The trail will have disabled access meaning mothers with prams and wheelchair users will be able to use it. The route to the castle from the car parking near the village in the direction of Křížov will be 600m long – the themed trail will take up a 250m section.

[Find out more >](#)

Product news

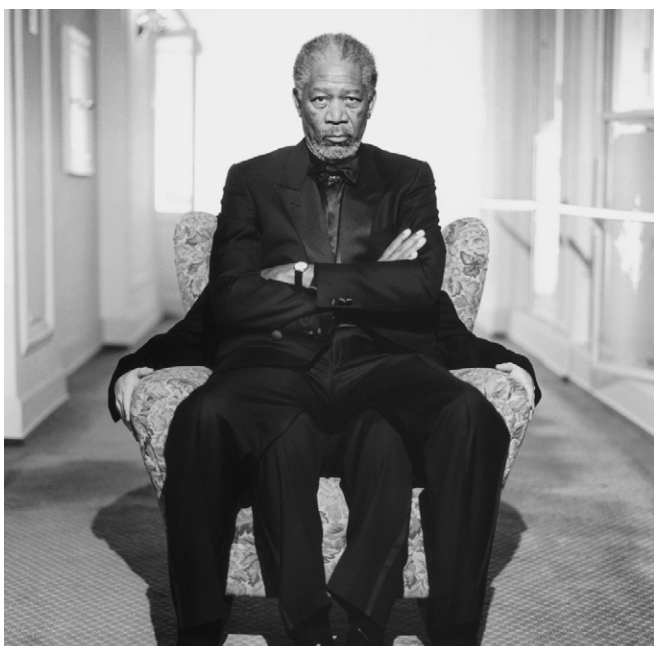
Culture & Sport

Stars by Tono Stano

A special exhibition of photographs by Tono Stano presents traditional and unseen images of celebrities attending the Carlsbad International Film Festival which have been taken over many years. Some of the best-known personalities you'll see on the photos include Morgan Freeman, Uma Thurman, Willem Dafoe, Jude Law, Woody Harrelson, John Malkovich, Scarlett Johansson, Sharon Stone and many others. The exhibition will take place at the Sparkasse building in Carlsbad.

Karlovy Vary, until 31. 7. 2025

[Find out more >](#)



Slovácko Festival of Tastes and Aromas

The Rochus open-air museum in Uherské Hradiště will come to life this September with the 10th edition of the Slovácko Festival of Tastes and Aromas. From 10:00 until 16:00 visitors will have the chance to try the best food and drink the Slovácko area produces. They can look forward to traditional baked goods, savoury delicacies such as smoked meats, pulses, sauerkraut and soups, and of course liquid delights – wine from local vintners, beer from the area's breweries and traditional spirits. There will be competitions for adults and children alike, demonstrations of cookery and baking using traditional recipes and folklore galore.

Skanzen Rochus, Uherské Hradiště, 21. 9. 2024

[Find out more >](#)



Open studio days in the Vysočina Region 2024

The Vysočina Museum in Havlíčkův Brod is putting on another edition of this traditional arts festival which sees artists and artisans throwing open the doors of their studios. Visitors can meet the artists in person in their home environment or speak with them and see their work in ways they normally wouldn't at ordinary exhibitions. Painters, sculptors, graphic artists, potters, blacksmiths, jewellery makers and those who make clothes as well as many others will enable visitors to learn a bit more about their work, and some are even happy to involve them in it. The motto of this year's festival is Identity and Diversity which is underlined by every artist and his or her own unique approach to creativity.

Vysočina, 5. - 6. 10. 2024

[Find out more >](#)

International glass symposium IGS in Nový Bor

In early October, the IGS International Glass Symposium will take place in and around Nový Bor in North Bohemia. The 15th edition will offer visitors the chance to see the work of 44 glass artists and designers from 15 countries and 5 continents, plus they can take a tour of the glass factories, galleries and exhibition rooms. Anyone interested will be able to try working with glass themselves. The symposium takes place once every three years and has a tradition going back over 40 years.

Nový Bor, 3. - 6. 10. 2024

[Find out more >](#)

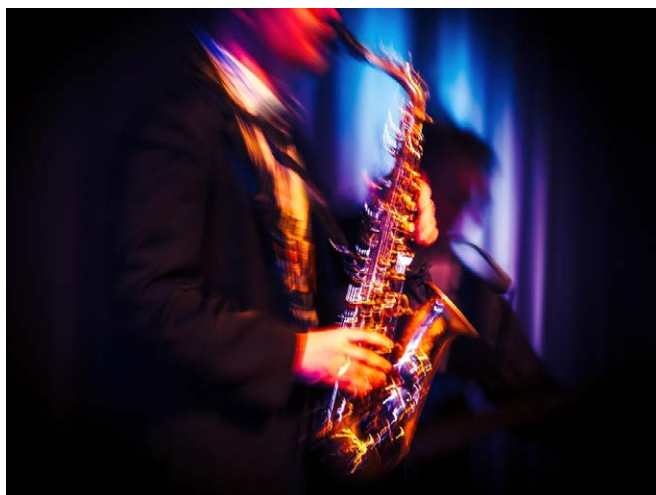


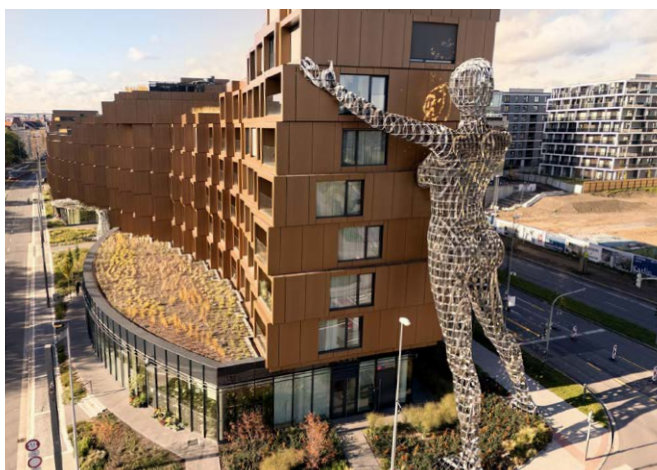
30th Vsetín Jazz Festival

In October, jazz lovers will make their traditional halt in Eastern Moravia, at the culture centre in Vsetín to be exact, which will be the venue for the 30th edition of this popular festival. In this anniversary year there will be performances by Gustav Brom's Big Band with the US singer Tonya Graves, Elemér Báder Trio & Mátyás Svéd from Hungary, Skip and Dan Wilkins Quartet from the US, and Vsetín's very own Jazzhec & vocal.

Vsetín, 12. 10. 2024

[Find out more >](#)





Czech Trail published

Publishers JOTA have issued a book by Martin Úbl called Czech Trail. The publication is dedicated to the first official long-distance walking route around the borders of Czechia. Readers learn how the idea of a group of enthusiasts was turned into a route like the Pacific Crest or the Camino, one which made it to the world's largest long-distance trek app and was featured by American Forbes. They will also learn why it is not advisable to bring along a sleeping bag designed for camping out on the beaches of Morocco and why a lot of animals have tackled the trail, but no kangaroo yet... The front blurb promises a mix of lyrical, if sometimes terrifying, chapters on the individual sections, comically dramatic stories from people who have hiked the trail, and helpful tips. CzechTourism is a partner in the book's publication.

[Find out more >](#)



V4 launch joint campaign in the US

The countries of the Visegrád Four (V4) in cooperation with the European Travel Commission (ETC) have launched a new on-line campaign aimed at the US market. This is entitled "Creative Cities of Central Europe". The two-month-long campaign began on August 1 of 2024 and focuses on promoting the modern and creative side of central Europe's cities. The aim is to attract travellers from the US looking for authentic experiences away from the beaten tourist trail.

[Find out more >](#)



New Czech Convention Bureau monthly magazine

Painting with wine, dance lessons, graffiti workshops, paper making, blueprint lessons... You will find all this and much more in the July issue of the Czech Convention Bureau monthly magazine. This issue is dedicated to cultural activities.

[Download here >](#)