



IGU WOC4 Meetings

March 3rd–6th, 2015

Prague, Czech Republic



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Social programme for Accompanying persons

Wednesday, March 4th, 2015

8:50 a.m.
Accompanying Persons

Meet with an English-speaking guide at the lobby of the hotel Adria

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Accompanying Persons

Guided City Walk – Prague Castle, Lesser Town, Charles Bridge, Jewish Prague (4 hours, including lunch)
route: Adria Hotel – Wenceslas Square, metro transportation to Hradcanska metro station, on foot Pisecka Gate, Belveder Summer House, Royal Garden, Prague Castle, Old Royal Route, Lesser Town, Charles Bridge, Jewish Prague, Adria Hotel

Thursday, March 5th, 2015

8:50 a.m.
Accompanying Persons

Meet with an English-speaking guide at the lobby of the hotel Adria

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Accompanying Persons

Guided City Walk – Vysehrad and New Town (4 hours, including lunch)
route: Adria Hotel Wenceslas Square, metro transfer to Vysehrad, walking round the Vysehrad (historical fort), Vltava River Embankments, New Town, National Theatre, Charles Square, New Town Hall, Adria Hotel

Hotel Adria



HOTEL ADRIA PRAGUE

<http://www.adria.cz/en/>

Hotel Adria****, Václavské náměstí 26,
110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic

The Adria Hotel is a green four star Superior hotel on Wenceslas Square in the centre of Prague.

The hotel has been in operation for more than a hundred years attracting guests with the quality of its services, its elegant and comfortable interior and friendly atmosphere. Its excellent location not far from the Old Town, but also in close vicinity to the evergreen Franciscan Garden provides a peaceful base after a day spent in the hustle and bustle of the city.

The Adria Hotel offers luxury accommodation in 89 rooms with a view of the vibrant Wenceslas Square or the serene Franciscan Garden, a cheerfully equipped breakfast room with lots of home produce, several cosy lounges for meetings and events of all kinds as well as a lobby bar with the option of being seated directly on Wenceslas Square. The pride and joy of the Adria Hotel is the renowned **Triton Restaurant** – an Art Nouveau stalactite cave with the original 1912 interior.

Thanks to its attitude and above-standard care the Adria Hotel has received a number of prestigious awards.





LOCATION

<http://www.adria.cz/en/contact/locations>

The Adria Hotel is situated in the bottom part of Wenceslas Square in a peaceful pedestrian zone, within walking distance from the Old Town Square, Charles Bridge, Municipal House and many other beautiful sights of the Old Town. During the day guests may pop into the hotel for a brief time or take a rest in the adjoining Franciscan Garden and enjoy the atmosphere of serene greenery and the neighbouring Franciscan Monastery.

The Adria Hotel is located directly at Můstek Underground Station (A and B Lines), not far from the Václavské náměstí (Wenceslas Square) tram stop and Museum Underground Station (A and C Lines) and hence is an ideal starting point for wandering around the city, exploring old Prague and shopping. The excellent transport accessibility enables comfortable and fast travel throughout the whole of Prague. The location in the middle of Wenceslas Square allows guests to be at the centre of all cultural activities and simultaneously have all of the most significant Prague sights within their reach.

HISTORY OF THE ADRIA HOTEL

<http://www.adria.cz/en/about-hotel/history-since-1912>

House No. 784, in which the Adria Hotel is located, is a part of the terraced development at the bottom section of Wenceslas Square. According to the available records this whole side and the block behind it as well as the Church of Our Lady of Snow was owned by the White Friars' Monastery. At the end of the 14th century in pursuit of acquiring the means to finance their very costly building programme the monastery divided this land into plots for construction of several burger houses liable to tax. At first what is today's plot was occupied by two structures. However, records show that the property sold in 1540 was a single house No. 784 with a garden.

Throughout the centuries the building was owned by several owners and underwent various adaptations. In 1911 the "Blue Shoe" House was bought by the hotelier Emil Ročák, who made a general reconstruction of the building converting it into hotel and restaurant facilities. During the reconstruction a restaurant hall was built in the basement and it also contained a mezzanine floor with a gallery including a stage for cabaret and other similar show productions. The whole house under the title of "NEPTUN" was approved for operation in 1912.

At that time the building was used by several outstanding performers, such as Emil Artur Longen, Saša Rašilov and Jaroslav Marvan. In

Hotel Adria



December 1918 the house was purchased by the Municipal Savings Bank, which on Oct. 24, 1919 sold it to František Tichý, grandfather of the current owners. Apart from being a hotelier and owner of Building No. 784, František Tichý was also a founder of Czech Cinematography and from 1918 he held the position of its Chairman.

In the subsequent reconstruction of 1927 the hall was named after the "Prince" of Czech comedians and was called "Burian's Theatre". Vlasta Burian and his company performed here until 1928 and the basement of a small hotel on Wenceslas Square was often frequented by an audience yearning to see a legendary duo of Czech theatre – Voskovec & Werich. When their show moved a little further, into Vodičkova Street, the theatre was converted into the "Hollywood" cinema, which was in operation until 1930. In 1940 the State Heritage Office issued a certificate proclaiming House No. 784 a listed building and in 1951 it went under national administration and the entrance hall was changed into a Mechanika Co-operative workshop. In 1974 the basement premises of the front building were adapted into the Adria Student Club.

After the restitution and return of the structure to the Tichý family in 1991 the ADRIA-NEPTUN company was set up and plans for the general reconstruction were prepared. The reconstruction itself started in 1992 and reached the astronomical figure of CZK 150, 000,000.00. The financing was arranged solely by own Czech capital.



Therefore, the Adria Hotel can continue satisfying the wishes of its guests and fulfil the legacy of František Tichý, the grandfather of the current owners. He used to run his hotel in the same way we want to run it – bringing a good life not only to him and his family, but also to employees, people around the hotel as well as hotel guests.

TRITON RESTAURANT

<http://www.adria.cz/en/unique-restaurant>

A concealed gem directly on Wenceslas Square – a stalactite cave with the original Art Nouveau features from 1912. The TRITON Restaurant provides an unforgettable experience for everyone – a unique interior and a tradition of top class gastronomy together with a selection of the best wines from all over the world, accompanied by an ancient story told by the statues placed all around. All this can be experienced in the Prague centre right next to the Old Town.

Guests of the TRITON Restaurant are always happy to return thanks to the excellent gastronomy combined with the genuine cuisine of our grandmothers, applying modern methods of food preparation. We cook only from high quality fresh ingredients, which often come from local farmers who supply food of the highest quality with the certified origin. The a la carte menu is supplemented with a gourmet gastro-calendar – offering a seasonal menu connected with a certain season of the year or specific event. These meals can make a popular gift for any occasion in the form of a Gourmet Certificate.

Thanks to its uniqueness the TRITON Restaurant was the place where important personalities of political and cultural life used to meet, such as Voskovec and Werich, Vlasta Burian, Emil Arthur Longen, Jaroslav Marvan, Jindřich Plachta, E. E. Kisch, Hugo Haas and many others. Even today thanks to the superb gastronomic enjoyment and friendly and obliging staff famous personalities keep returning to the restaurant.

The Triton Restaurant is open daily from 11.30 a.m. – 11.00 p.m.



Prague

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prague>

Prague is the capital and largest city of the Czech Republic. It is the fourteenth-largest city in the European Union. It is also the historical capital of Bohemia. Situated in the north-west of the country on the Vltava River, the city is home to about 1.3 million people, while its larger urban zone is estimated to have a population of nearly 2 million. The city has a temperate climate, with warm summers and chilly winters.

Prague has been a political, cultural, and economic centre of central Europe with waxing and waning fortunes during its 1,100-year existence. Founded during the Romanesque and flourishing by the Gothic and Renaissance eras, Prague was not only the capital of the Czech state, but also the seat of two Holy Roman Emperors and thus also the capital of the Holy Roman Empire. It was an important city to the Habsburg

Monarchy and its Austro-Hungarian Empire and after World War I became the capital of Czechoslovakia. The city played major roles in the Protestant Reformation, the Thirty Years' War, and in 20th-century history, during both World Wars and the post-war Communist era.

Prague is home to a number of famous cultural attractions, many of which survived the violence and destruction of 20th-century Europe. Main attractions include the Prague Castle, the Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, the Jewish Quarter, the Lennon Wall and Petřín hill. Since 1992, the extensive historic centre of Prague has been included in the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites. Prague is the capital of the Czech Republic, which used to be joined with Slovakia until the two separated into distinct sovereign states.

The city boasts more than ten major museums, along with numerous theatres, galleries, cinemas, and other historical exhibits. A modern public transportation system connects the city. Also, it is home to

Prague



a wide range of public and private schools, including Charles University. Prague is classified as an Alpha-global city according to GaWC studies, comparable to Berlin, Rome and Houston. Its rich history makes it a popular tourist destination, and the city receives more than 4.4 million international visitors annually, as of 2011. In 2011, Prague was the sixth-most-visited city in Europe. During the thousand years of its existence, the city grew from a settlement stretching from Prague Castle in the north to the fort of Vyšehrad in the south, becoming the multicultural capital of a modern European state, the Czech Republic, a member state of the European Union.

Geography

Prague is situated on the Vltava river, at 50°05"N and 14°27"E. in the centre of the



Bohemian Basin. Prague is approximately at the same latitude as Frankfurt, Germany; Paris, France; and Vancouver, Canada.

Climate

The city of Prague lies between oceanic climate and humid continental climate. The winters are relatively cold with average temperatures at about freezing point, and with very little sunshine. Snow cover can be common between mid-November to late March although snow accumulations of more than 20 cm are infrequent. There are also a few periods of mild temperatures in winter. Summers usually bring plenty of sunshine and the average high temperature of 24 °C. Nights can be quite cool even in summer, though. Precipitation in Prague is rather low (it is less rainy than Rome and Paris) as the shadow of the Ore Mountains and the Czech Central Highlands takes effect. The driest season is usually winter while the summers can bring quite heavy rain especially in form of violent storms and showers.

Public transportation

The public transport infrastructure consists of an intensely used integrated transport system of Prague Metro (its length is 59 km (37 mi) with 57 stations in total), Prague tram system, buses, the Petřín funicular to Petřín Hill, cable car on the hill Mrázovka and at the zoo in Troja and six ferries. Prague has one of the highest rates of public transport usage in the world with 1.2 billion passenger journeys per annum.

The Metro has three major lines extending throughout the city; in June 2010, construction began to extend the green line further into the northwest corner of Prague and eventually to the airport. A fourth Metro line is planned, although a date for construction to begin has not



yet been specified. In operation there are currently two kinds of units: "81-71M" which is modernized variant of the Soviet 81-71 and from 1998 new "M1" trains manufactured by consortium consisting of ČKD Praha, ADtranz and Siemens. The original Soviet vehicles "Ečs" were excluded in 1997, but one museum-set is monthly in operation at line C, another vehicle is also placed in public transport museum in depot Střešovice. Per capita usage of the Prague metro is the highest in the world. According to its builder, the escalator at Náměstí Míru station is the longest escalator in Europe.

Prague tram system now operates various types of trams: still popular classic Tatra T3, newer Tatra KT8D5, T6A5, Škoda 14 T designed by Porsche, newest Škoda 15 T and nostalgic tram number 91. Although Melbourne, Australia has the longest total tram system length in the world, Prague's tram network is one of the largest in the

world by other measures. The Prague tram rolling stock consists of over 900 individual cars, of those around 700 are the T3 class, which are typically operated coupled together in pairs. The system carries more than 356 million passengers annually, the third highest tram patronage in the world after St Petersburg and Budapest. On a per capita basis, Prague has the second highest tram patronage after Zürich.

All services have a common ticketing system, and are run by the Prague Public Transport Company (Dopravní podnik hl. m. Prahy, a. s.) and several other companies. Recently, the Regional Organiser of Prague Integrated Transport (ROPID) has franchised operation of ferries on the Vltava river, which are also a part of the public transport system with common fares. Taxi services operate from regulated taxi stands, and from independent taxi drivers who make pick-ups on the street.

Miscellaneous Information



Czech cuisine

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Czech_Republic#Cuisine

Pilsner Urquell, the first "pilsner" type beer in the world. Svíčková na smetaně is a signature Czech dish, consisting of marinated beef with Czech dumplings (knedlíky). Czech cuisine is marked by a strong emphasis on meat dishes. Pork is quite common; beef and chicken are also popular. Goose, duck, rabbit and wild game are served. Fish is rare, with the occasional exception of fresh trout and carp, which is served at Christmas.



Czech beer has a long and important history. The first brewery is known to have existed in 1118 and the Czech Republic has the highest beer consumption per capita in the world. The famous Pilsener style beer originated in the western Bohemian city of Plzeň, and further south the town of České Budějovice, known as Budweis in German, lent its name to its beer, eventually known as Budweiser Budvar. Apart from these and other major brands, the Czech Republic also boasts a growing number of top quality small breweries and mini-breweries seeking to continue the age-old tradition of quality and taste, whose output matches the best in the world: Štiřín, Chýně, Oslavany, Kácov. Tourism is slowly growing around the Southern Moravian region too, which has been producing wine since the Middle Ages; about 94% of vineyards in the Czech Republic are Moravian. Aside from Slivovitz, Czech beer and wine, the Czechs also



produce two unique liquors, Fernet Stock and Becherovka. Kofola is a non-alcoholic domestic cola soft drink which competes with Coca Cola and Pepsi in popularity.

Unique Czech dishes include roast pork with bread dumplings and stewed cabbage Vepřo-knedlo-zelo, roast sirloin beef with steamed dumplings and cream-of-vegetable sauce Svíčková na smetaně, tomato sauce Rájská or dill sauce Koprovka, roast duck with bread or potato dumplings and braised red cabbage, a variety of beef and pork goulash stews Guláš, fried cheese Smažák or the famous potato pancakes Bramboráky, besides a large variety of delicate local sausages, wurst, pátés and smoked meats and other traditional local foods. Czech desserts include a wide variety of whipped cream, chocolate and fruit pastries and tarts, crepes, creme desserts and cheese, poppy seed filled and other types of traditional cakes such as buchty, koláče and štrúdl.

