# April 7 to April 14, xxxx Itinerary

#### **DAY ONE -Tuesday, April 8**

#### **ARRIVAL AT PRAGUE - Ruzyne Airport**

Connect with guide holding sign reading, "Royal Palm Women's Club" in the arrival hall

Porters will transfer luggage to the deluxe motorcoach

#### Transfer by deluxe coach to the Palace Hotel Praha

On the way to the hotel, the guide will briefly introduce Prague and The Czech Republic.

#### Check in

- Easy check in at the hotel.
- Keys are ready, as are welcome kits with a Prague map
- Luggage will be delivered to your room
- Hostess will be available at the hospitality desk

#### Afternoon and Evening at leisure

**Hotel Palace Praha** Panská 12 -11121 Prague 1 Czech Republic

Tel.: 011-420 224 093 111 Fax: 011-420 224 221 240 Email: info@palacehotel.cz

#### **DAY TWO-Wednesday, April 9**

Full buffet breakfast at Hotel

**09.00 PRAGUE OLD TOWN DISCOVERY-** Begin your guided sightseeing tour through the most beautiful treasures of Prague's Old Town, including the famous square.

It originated in the 12th century and has since been a witness to many historical events. Beside the Old Town Hall and the Church of Our Lady before Tyn, the square also boasts the Baroque St. Nicholas church, the Stone Bell house — a Gothic city palace from the 14th century — and the Memorial to Master Jan Hus. The spot where 27 Czech citizens were executed on June 21, 1621, is permanently marked in the pavement. The Prague Meridian can also be seen there. The tour includes a ride around the Old Town in horse-drawn carriages.



#### 11.00 Coffee and cake in the "Grand Café Orient" the pearl of Czech Cubism

**Café Orient and Cubism museum -**After almost 80 years, the unique cubist café "Grand Café Orient" was reopened on the first floor of the House of the Black Madonna. Cubism in architecture, furniture, pottery, glass, and furnishings is a pure Czech phenomenon — especially the House of the Black Madonna. It was built by renowned architect Josef Gocar (then 31 years old) in 1912. Its unique design is seen throughout, including the fabulous "Grand Café Orient".

The Cubist café was open for only about ten years and was closed in the early 1920s, mainly because the Cubist style went out of fashion. Interest in it was renewed when artists, architects, and journalists realized that this is the only real cubist café on Earth

**11.30** Visit the unique Cubism museum at the Black Madonna House

#### 13:00 LUNCH AT ART NOUVEAU RESTAURANT

The French-cuisine restaurant is located in the Municipal House, one of the jewels of Prague, and is considered the most beautiful Art-Nouveau restaurant in Europe. Relax and enjoy the cold and hot buffet, Bohemian Champagne, and jazz.

- 3 course menu and coffee
- ½ bottle of wine per person

Transfer back to the hotel

#### **DAY THREE -Thursday, April 10**

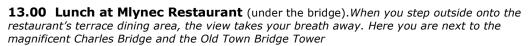
Full buffet breakfast at Hotel

**09.00** Meet in the lobby with guide and departure for Prague Castle (Hradschin) **Prague Castle** is the largest medieval castle complex in Europe and the ancient seat of Czech kings throughout the ages. Several destructive wars and fires (and the subsequent renovations), along with differing political forces have combined to create an intriguing mix of palaces, churches, and fortifications. The Castle complex consists of the following: Saint Vitus Cathedral (Prague's most recognizable landmark), St. George's Basilica, several palaces, a monastery, galleries, viewing towers, The Story of Prague Castle Museum, and Golden Lane. The castle dominated by St. Vitus Cathedral is very much the highlight of the tour. The Golden Lane, built during the cusp of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, adds romantic flavour.



#### Schedule:

- Tour the Hradschin and walk down to Charles Bridge
- Savor coffee and typical Bohemian cake at Bella Vista Viewpoint Restaurant offering a unique view of the Old Town and the adjacent Petřín Hil and enjoyed by the likes of Sean Connery and members of the Rolling Stones.
- Continue your walk to Charles Bridge and the Mlynec restaurant



3 course menu and coffee



#### 15.00 RIVER CANAL BOAT TRIPS Aboard the VODOUCH canal barge (Capacity: 35)

Experience an original canal boat from the end of 19th century. Boat "Vodouch" has a unique wooden interior with brass details. Certified shipmasters provide live commentary on Prague monuments while Berth officers usher the passengers aboard, provide beverages, and answer your questions.

**CERTOVKA.** The waterway that separates Mala Strana and Kampa Island. Its banks are filled with typical Czech houses bedecked with festive flowers, while beautiful cafes and restaurants are mirrored on the water's surface. <u>JUDITA</u> the last existing span of the Judith's Bridge - the first stone bridge in the Middle Europe built in 1169.

- Tour through Prague's "Venice"
- Complimentary drink prepared on board

#### 15:45 Visit to the Jewish Ghetto

Step down from the street through the low portal of the Old/New Synagogue is to enter another world, one which endured a thousand years of relative peace until brought to a tragic end by the Nazi occupation. The Synagogue, begun in 1275, is Europe's oldest north of the Alps. Also discover the legend of the monster Golem!

#### **EVENING PROGRAM**

**19.30** Meet in the lobby and travel by deluxe coach to the restaurant

#### 20.00 PANORAMATIC DINNER AT BELLEVUE RESTAURANT

You will love the elegant atmosphere, excellent food, and knowledgeable wait staff as acknowledged by **The New York Times.** It is located on a bank of the Vltava River with a spectacular view of the Prague Castle Panorama and Little Town.



- Half bottle of wine per person
- Enjoy piano music or jazz, depending on the night's program...

After dinner, return to the hotel via deluxe motorcoach



#### **DAY FOUR - Friday, April 11**

Full buffet breakfast at Hotel

# 08.00 Full day excursion to Cesky Krumlov and Dinner with Gypsy show

This picturesque town lies in a deep, meandering valley of the VItava River in the very South of Bohemia. Its golden age came about during the rule of The Lords of Rožmberk (1302-1602), who made their residence there. At that time, Krumlov was a point of contact between the Czech interior, the Austrian/German Danube region, and Northern Italy. The Italian Renaissance greatly influenced the appearance of the town and its castle. At the end of the 17th century, during the rule of the Eggenberg dynasty, a Baroque theater was built and the chateau garden remodeled. During the rule of the Schwarzenbergs, Krumlov received a decorative Baroque makeover. However, Český Krumlov if far more than an exceptional complex of 300 historical buildings. The town presents itself to visitors as a hub of culture,

conventions, and tourism. The International Music Festival takes place annually, as does a Renaissance music festival. Theatrical productions are held in the castle garden, the <u>Festival of the Five-Petalled Rose</u> is a major

summer attraction, and the Egon Schiele Center is open to visitors the year round

#### **Program**

- 11.00 Arrival at Cesky Krumlov Castle
- 11.30 Visit of Cesky Krumlov Castle and Chateaux Gardens
- 13.00 Lunch at "Garden of Vienna" 3 course menu, coffee,
- **14.30** Discovery tour through medieval city
- **15.30** Visit of Egon Schiele museum
- **16.00** Time at leisure for shopping in picturesque lines of the medieval town
- 17.00 Transfer back to Prague
- **19.30** Folklore dinner with Gypsy show en route



#### 19.30 FOLKLORE DINNER AT KOLIBA

The Stodola Gourmet restaurant is ready to welcome you for an unforgettable dining experience. Many dishes are created on an open fire in front of guests. In summer, you may dine on the outside terrace. You will enjoy a typical Old Bohemian 3-course menu, coffee, mineral water, and a half-bottle of a good Moravian wine.

Typical Old Bohemian 3 course menu, coffee, mineral water  $\frac{1}{2}$  bottle of a good Moravian wine



#### **GYPSY SHOW**

We will attend a performance of Gypsy culture in Prague, giving you an insight into the culture of this ethnic group. Enjoy the best of dance and song while savouring traditional foods in an unforgettable evening full of entertainment and music. Your hosts: the Gypsy band known as Gitan. You will experience "Magic Music," beautiful and charming dancers, and personal Tarot card readings. What's in the cards for you?

#### 22.30 Return to Prague resumes

#### **DAY FIVE- Saturday, April 12**

Full buffet breakfast at Hotel

#### Day at leisure

#### **Evening Program**

**18.00** Meet in the lobby with guide and transfer by deluxe coach to the Prague State Opera

19.00 Opera: AIDA by Giuseppe Verdi

**21:45** Transfer by deluxe coach to the restaurant

#### 22.00 ZLATA PRAHA at the InterContinental Hotel

3 course menu and coffee ½ bottle of wine per person

Transfer to the hotel by private motorcoach



#### **AIDA** by Giuseppe Verdi



Aida was made to order (commissioned by the Egyptian viceroy and opera lover Ismail Pasha) for the ceremonial opening of the Suez Canal in 17.11.1869.

Verdi endowed the story of the Ethiopian princess Aida, imprisoned as a slave at the court of Egyptian pharaohs and living out her tragic amorous relationship to an Egyptian chieftain, with fervent music. He created a musical drama full of fairy-tale fantasy, yet at the same time realistically convincing. Aida has become one of the most renowned opera works ever.

Act I begins: In ancient Egypt, near the royal palace at Memphis, Radamès learns from the high priest, Ramfis, that Ethiopia soon may bring war to the Nile valley. The young officer hopes he will be chosen as commander of the army, envisioning triumph so he can free his beloved Aida, Ethiopian slave of the proud Princess Amneris. Amneris, who herself loves Radamès, jealously senses his feelings for Aida when the three meet. A procession led by the King arrives to confirm that the Ethiopians are advancing on Thebes. He appoints the jubilant Radamès as Egyptian commander, at which shouts of victory fill the air. Left alone, Aida is torn between her love for Radamès and for her native land: though now a slave, she is in fact the daughter of Amonasro, king of Ethiopia. She prays to the gods for mercy.

In the temple, as priestesses chant the praises of Ptah, priests consecrate Radamès' sword in a sacred ritual......



#### **DAY SIX - Sunday, April 13**

Full buffet breakfast at Hotel

**09:00** Meet your guide in the lobby

#### 9:30 Exclusive visit of the Estate Theatre—Walking in the footsteps of Mozart

The <u>Estates Theatre</u> is one of the most beautiful and historic playhouses in Europe. A product of the Enlightenment age, this small performing arts hall was built at the end of the 18th century, when national theatres were being constructed in major cities throughout Europe. The Estates will be forever linked with the great composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Mozart chose this stage to premiere not one, but two of his best-known operas: La Clemenza di Tito, in 1791; and a thrilling performance of Don Giovanni, on October 29, 1787, which was conducted by Mozart himself.

The interior is usually accessible only to theatregoers but, if the doors are open, try to sneak a peek at the opulent blue-velvet interior, which was featured in the movie Amadeus.

**Enjoy a private mini-concert** performed by a quintet in period costumes followed by a glass of Champagne



#### 12:30 Lunch at Kampa Fish

#### 14:30 VISIT OF SOVOVY MLYNY - MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

"If a nation's culture survives, then so too does the nation." Jan Mládek Meda and Jan Mládek met in Paris in 1953, and in 1960 settled permanently in Washington, D.C. All throughout their life together, they always supported Czechoslovak artists. More importantly, they amassed a major art collection, a brilliant achievement that began with one small painting by František Kupka



#### 17.00 COFFEE BREAK IN THE ART CAFE SOVOVY MLYNY

Enjoy coffee or tea at the art restaurant located on the pier of the Vltava River.

#### **Evening Program**

#### 18.45 Transfer to the Restaurant via "HERITAGE" CARS

A caravan of vintage and antique automobiles, each driven by chauffeurs in period costumes, will carry you in stately pride to Hradcin Square. 3-4 passengers will be seated in each vehicle. One historical bus can be used for transfer too.



#### **DINNER AT HANAVSKY PAVILION**

The restaurant is reserved exclusively for the group

The HANAVSKÝ PAVILON restaurant with its summer terrace is known for a unique, luxurious pseudo-Baroque structure and interior. Our group will have the dining room to itself and the dinner pianist. The menu lists a rich selection of both international and traditional Old Bohemian cuisines plus a variety of fresh fish specials. Their many beverages, wines, beers, and spirits will satisfy everyone's taste.

#### Dinner at the pavilion includes...

- Welcome cocktail will be arranged at the terrace: cold or hot depending upon weather
- · Three course menu including coffee and mineral water
- Half bottle of wine per person

After dinner, return to the hotel via deluxe coach





The Restaurant HANAVSKÝ PAVILON with its summer terrace takes the liberty to invite you to visit our unique luxurious interior of a beautiful pseudo-Baroque structure not only to offer you to make your choice from our products of culinary art but also to give you the possibility to enjoy a fascinating

look – from the bird's eye view – at famous Prague bridges and towers, in their entire stunning historical beauty.

Whilst the soft, silent tones of our pianist provide a pleasant musical background, you can select from a rich offer of the international as well as of the traditional Old Bohemian cuisines enriched by a variety of specials made of guaranteed fresh fish only. Doing justice to any meal, our beverages, wines, beers and spirits satisfy even the very discriminating gourmets.

Both the restaurant and the terrace are open every day from 11:00 a.m. to 01:00 a.m. The available capacity is 30 guests (restaurant)

and 60 guests (heated terrace). An impressive structure in luxuriant Dutch pseudo-Baroque style, all made of cast iron complemented with masonry, it proved to be a gem of the pavilions of the Land Jubilee Exhibition held in the Royal Game Reserve in the year of 1891 in honor of the "Results of the Czech nation's noble cultural efforts", a hundred years after the first industrial exhibition in Prague in 1791.

His Grace, Prince William of Hanava, introduced to the public in this way his ironworks at Komárov near Hogovice, the oldest and then the largest and most up-to-date such works in Bohemia. Specialist admired not only the imaginative use of cast iron in building technology but also the perfect technological and artistic execution of the metallurgical products exhibited inside.

When the exhibition was over, the Prince of Hanava, as a truly generous gentleman, donated the pavilion to the City

of Prague. This important technical monument, which even the French architect Le Corbusier is reported to have spoken of with the greatest enthusiasm, was transferred in 1898 to its present-day attractive location and adapted to serve as a restaurant with a fine view of the city: "Whoever has seen Prague from this delightful riverside of Vltava, high up above the humming weirs, will understand what we live for..." (Ferdinand Schulz)





### **DAY SEVEN - Monday, April 14**

Full buffet breakfast at Hotel

#### **DEPARTURE FROM PRAGUE INTERNATION AIRPORT**

- **07:30** Meet in the lobby and transfer by deluxe coach to the airport Luggage handling at the airport
- **09:50** Departure Flight on Swiss Air 1485 to Zurich GOOD BYE and we hope you had a wonderful time!



## The following flights are reserved for the group:

April 7	Swiss Air #65	Miami – Zurich	7:50pm	11:05am
April 8	Swiss Air #1486	Zurich – Prague	12:45pm	2:10pm
April 14	Swiss Air #1485	Prague – Zurich	9:50am	11:15am
April 14	Swiss Air #64	Zurich – Miami	1:05pm	5:30pm