

Prague City Tourism is here to help you!

information about Prague • maps and information brochures for free • Prague Card • tickets for cultural and sport events • city tours • accommodation • public transportation tickets • souvenirs from Prague • guide services

Tourist information centres can be found in downtown Prague and at the international airport:

• **Old Town Hall** – Old Town Square 1, Prague 1, daily 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; from January 2017 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; **Guide Office** – Mon – Fri 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Sat+Sun 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

• **Na Můstku** – Rytiřská 12, Prague 1, daily 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

• **Wenceslas Square** – corner of Štěpánská St., Prague 1, daily 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (9. 1. – 14. 3. 2017 closed)

• **Václav Havel Airport Prague Terminal 1 (arrival hall)** daily 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

• **Václav Havel Airport Prague Terminal 2** – daily 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Opening time during Christmas:

• **Old Town Hall and Na Můstku**
24. 12. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; **25.** and **26. 12.** 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; **31. 12.** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; **1. 1. 2017** 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

• **Václav Havel Airport Prague Terminal 1 and 2**
24. and **31. 12.** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; **25. 12.** and **1. 1. 2017** 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

• **Wenceslas Square**
24. 12. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; **25., 26., 31. 12.** and **1. 1. 2017** closed

www.prague.eu



Christmas with Prague City Tourism

We too are looking forward to Christmas – we have prepared several thematic events. If you have time, stop by, you will be welcomed...

Christmas Celebrations in Prague

This popular guided tour through Prague offers a look at Czech Christmas customs and traditions (in Czech and English).

dates: December 3, 10, 17, and 26 at 2:00 p.m.

tour length: 2 hours

price: CZK 300 / person

route: Old Town Square – Ungelt – Church of St Jacob – Ovocný trh – Estates Theatre – Příkop – Můstek – Church of Our Lady of the Snows – Národní St. – Church of St Martin in the Wall – Betlémské Square – Church of St Giles – Old Town Hall

bookings: tel. +420 236 002 569, +420 775 855 037; e-mail: guides@prague.eu

Christmas Concert at the Old Town Hall

The Kvintesece Quartet plays both traditional and lesser-known Christmas songs in the magical surroundings of the Jiřík Hall.

date: December 18 at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

price: CZK 150 / person

bookings: www.eshop.prague.eu or at our tourist information centres

Christmas Carols from the Old Town Hall Tower

Even the trumpeters at the Old Town Hall join in the Christmas spirit. Every Advent Sunday after the procession of the Apostles between 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., the traditional fanfare from the Old Town Hall Tower will be replaced by Czech and international Christmas carols.



Czech Christmas, Then and Now

Although the Czech Republic is one of the world's least religious countries, Christmas (December 24–26) is celebrated here with great zeal. While for many countries Christmas doesn't start until December 25, here the Christmas Eve dinner and gift-unwrapping ritual that take place on the evening of December 24 are the heart of the holiday. If you're planning to be in Prague around this time, be sure to book your restaurant meals in advance as many businesses will be closed.

The first visible signs of the arrival of Christmas are, of course, the omnipresent **Christmas markets**. Among the items on sale are often hand-blown, colourful glass Christmas ornaments; their manufacture has been a traditional craft in the Czech lands for centuries, even though the designs have changed with the times.

Next comes **St Nicholas' Night**: On the evening of December 5, St Nicholas (Mikuláš in Czech) and his two sidekicks – a devil and an angel – can be seen roaming the streets, visiting the homes of young children and

dispensing sweets and fruit (plus pieces of coal to those whose behaviour has been in need of improvement). Mikuláš casts an imposing figure, wearing a bishop's robes, miter, and staff (crozier); his flowy beard is snow-white like Santa Claus's, but there the resemblance ends. After finishing their rounds, the Nicholases and their entourage can sometimes be seen partying in the city centre – join them at your own risk.

A week or so before Christmas, huge tubs of water can be seen all over the city, filled with live carp – a future **Christmas Eve meal** for traditionally-minded Czechs. The ritual of picking out your own live carps and having it killed on the spot or bringing it home alive to live out its last hours in a bath tub is part and parcel of the Czech culture, even though in recent years many have switched from local carp to more exotic (and less bony) fish. Restaurants, of course, know that the appeal to fried carp is somewhat limited outside our borders, so visitors needn't worry that carp will be the only choice for their festive meal.

Nativity Scenes

Nativity scenes are usually on display from December 24 through the beginning of January, sometimes even longer.

Cathedral of Sts Vítus, Wenceslas, and Adalbert
Prague 1 – Prague Castle

Church of the Virgin Mary Angelic
Prague 1 – Hradčany, Loretské nám. 6
of special interest: life-sized nativity figures

Church of St Thomas
Prague 1 – Lesser Town, Josefská 8
of special interest: Tyrol nativity scene

Church of Our Lady of the Snows
Prague 1 – New Town, Jungmannovo nám. 18
of special interest: the number of figures and the nearby exhibition of historical and contemporary nativity scenes at Galerie Ambit

Church of Our Lady before Týn
Prague 1 – Old Town Square
of special interest: various carved sheep and two versions of the Holy Family

Church of St Ignatius
Prague 2 – New Town, Ječná 2
of special interest: expressions on the human figures and the figure of an elephant

Church of St Ludmila
Prague 2 – Vinohrady, náměstí Míru
of special interest: picturesque figures

Church of St Matthew
Prague 6 – Dejvice, U Matěje
of special interest: nativity scene is made of gingerbread

Church of St Anthony of Padua
Prague 7 – Holešovice, Strossmayerovo náměstí
of special interest: figures in folk costumes (the "Slavic" nativity scene)



Get to know: VINOHRADY La Dolce Vita of Prague's Upper Crust



The convex and concave metal tiles decorating the metro stations of the A line are Prague design icons in their own right.

This imposing residential area has everything: elegant architecture, great restaurants and cafés, places of cultural interest, and greenery – all just a few minutes from the historical centre. Ornate Art Nouveau façades and streets lined with mature trees slightly evoke Paris – and we daresay the quality of cafés is equal – making Vinohrady a highly sought-after location. We'll give you an overview of the area around Náměstí Míru (Peace Square), the virtual centrepiece of this quarter.

Vinohrady's contemporary appearance emerged at the turn of the 20th century, when primarily upper middle class, including renowned artists such as the Čapek brothers and sculptor Ladislav Šaloun, creator of the Jan Hus statue at the Old Town Square, moved into newly built villas and apartment buildings. As the name suggests, the history of Vinohrady goes back much further. When Charles IV had ordered grapevines to be planted here in the 14th century, the area began to be called "Vineyard Mountains" and later Royal Vineyards (Královské Vinohrady). It was an independent city until it was finally annexed into the city of Prague in 1922.

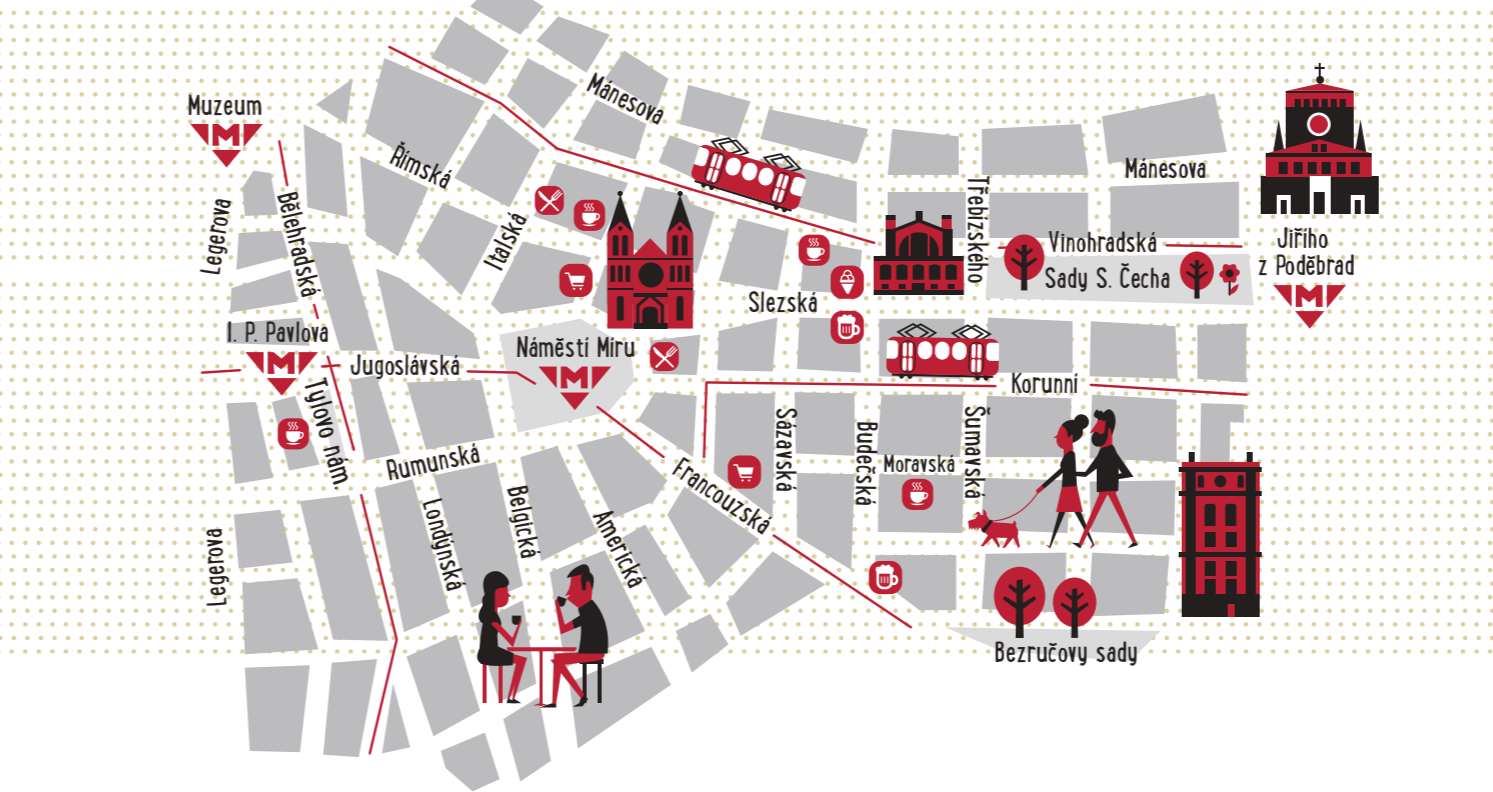
The focal point of Náměstí Míru is the Church of St Ludmila, built at the end of the 19th century in the Neo-Gothic style. It houses vitrages, paintings, and sculptures. The church is open half an hour before a mass, daily except Sunday at 4 p.m., and on Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. In December, Christmas markets with fairytale charm are held literally at the foot of the church. Other buildings that catch your eye at the square are the Art Nouveau Vinohrady Theatre and the Vinohrady National House, a venue for balls and other social events.

Vinohrady is known for its relaxed residential character. In addition to the locals whose families have lived here for several generations, young hipsters and a diverse mix of foreigners from around the world have moved into the area. It seems not a day goes by when a new café, bistro, or restaurant is opened. Náměstí Míru itself is enlivened by an outdoor piano and the nearby Poesiomat, a "jukebox for poetry" with recordings of Czech and American poetry, which looks like a megaphone in the shape of an inverted letter "J" – a device as well as a sculpture.

Where to go in Vinohrady? Start at Náměstí Míru and just set out – head for a café, a restaurant, or maybe even the Žižkov Television Tower. If it's sunny, don't miss one of Vinohrady's parks – Riegrovy sady (Rieger Gardens) with its unusual view at the city centre, or Grébovka with its pavilion and vineyards. If you long for charming streets just walk



through – Americká, Londýnská, Lužická, Lublaňská, and Mánesová – and don't forget to look up – some of the most interesting details on the building façades are on the upper floors. Next time you won't want to stay anywhere else!



RECOMMENDED BUSINESSES

Coffee Room (Korunní 74)

A small, cosy espresso bar that blends a relaxed atmosphere with the aroma of high quality coffee.

La Bohème Café (Sázavská 32)

Quiet atmosphere, attentive service, and excellent coffee. Arguably one of the nicest cafés in Prague.

Monolok café (Moravská 18)

During the day, ideal for coffee, in the evening for a glass of wine, and over the weekend for brunch.

Momoichi Coffetearia (Římská 35)

The only café in Prague where you can taste coffee from Japanese roasters extracted in a special device called the Alphadomchine. Their menu features superb savoury okonomiyaki crepes.

IF Café (Tylovo náměstí 2)

For those who love French sweets. Their Croque Madame is excellent too.

Zmrzlinář (Slezská 15)

If you long for ice cream even in the winter, head here. Their ice cream is renowned.

Pavilon (Vinohradská 50)

Vinohrady's historical market building is today a temple of art and interior design.

Little Rock Star (Francouzská 11)

Untraditional children's clothing; your child will be happy, but everyone will see how cool YOU are.

Lazy Eye (Ibsenova 3)

Original pin-up fashion by Czech designer Hana Noble. Dresses that accentuate your femininity.

Dish (Římská 29)

Heaven for burgerphiles; they even make the best veggie burger in the city.

Las Adelitas (Americká 8)

Authentic Mexican restaurant – their tacos al pastor and margaritas are unbeatable.

Sokolovna (Slezská 22)

Czech classics at reasonable prices and well-chilled beer – what more could you want?

U Bulínů (Budečská 2)

Czech cuisine and more, good service, and Pilsner beer.

Bruxx (náměstí Míru 9)

Simple – beer and mussels, but also oysters, shrimp, snails, and fish. For when you're longing for the sea.

HOW TO GET THERE

Metro C – I. P. Pavlova

Metro A – Náměstí Míru or Jiřího z Poděbrad

Trams 4, 10, 16, 22 – I. P. Pavlova or Náměstí Míru stops (night tram 51)

Would you like to take a stroll through Vinohrady or other Prague districts outside the centre, discover their charm and enjoy scenic views? Then pick up a copy of our brochure Five Prague Walks, which is available for free in our visitor centres, or download it from our website www.prague.eu.

Taste of the Season

Prague is a city whose palate seems to become more cosmopolitan with each new restaurant. Long gone are the days when its culinary delights consisted of goulash, fried cheese (yes, really), and lots and lots of beer. The beer is still around, of course, in fact more so than ever. There are no fewer than **30 breweries in Prague alone**, but where the Bohemian pilsner used to be the only available style, local brewers now show off their chops by brewing anything from bocks to stouts to the ever-trendy IPAs.

What cuisines can you sample in Prague? Italians have long been a part of the city's cultural identity and today some of Prague's best restaurants offer excellent, authentic Italian food. The global fancy burger craze shows no signs of abating in Prague either (perhaps thanks to the fact that they pair so perfectly with beer), and – surprisingly for many – the city has several high-quality Mexican restaurants (serving killer margaritas). Speaking of surprises, did you know Prague has more vegetarian restaurants per capita than any other European city? True – but we still love our meat.

In fact, winter is the perfect time to indulge in some **traditional Czech food**. Rich and satisfying, it is just what you want to warm up with after a winter's stroll, accompanied by either beer or a glass of local wine. If you try just one Czech dish during your visit, make it **roast duck with dumplings and cabbage** (we must not forget the vitamins!). A close second choice would be **svíčková**, sirloin of beef that's roasted, sliced and served with a creamy, sweet sauce redolent of spice. Vegetarian? No problem – Czechs are known to eat dessert for their main course when so inspired.

Beer and Wine: Pick up **our free guides to beer and wine establishments** in Prague at any of our visitor centres, or visit the Food & Drink section of www.prague.eu.

Recommended restaurants serving Czech food:

Lokál

several branches: **Lokál Dlouhááá** – Dlouhá 33, Prague 1 – Old Town / **Lokál U Bílé kuželky** – Míšeňská 12, Prague 1 – Lesser Town / **Lokál Nad Stromovkou** – Nad Královskou oborou 31, Prague 7 – Letná / **Lokál Hamburk** – Sokolovská 55, Prague 8 – Karlín

lokál.ambi.cz

Lokál is a traditional Czech pub with excellent Pilsner beer. Very popular, so reservations are a must.

Kolkovna Olympia

Vítězná 7, Prague 5 – Lesser Town

www.kolkovna.cz

A large modern pub with a Czech menu that also includes some international favourites. Very good duck and occasionally, goose. Great sausages. Pilsner Urquell.

U Bansethů

Táborská 49, Prague 4 – Nusle

www.ubansethu.cz

Authenticity alert! A trip to Nusle is required to visit this restaurant that, many claim, serves the very best roast duck in the entire city. Czech menu only; have your hotel handle the reservation.

U Modré kachničky

2 branches: Nebovidská 6, Prague 1 – Lesser Town / Michalská 16, Prague 1 – Old Town

www.umodrekachnicky.cz

Ye olde Bohemian décor is a bit on the kitschy side, but the kitchen knows its way around Czech classics. Venison is a specialty.

La Degustation Bohême Bourgeoise

Haštalská 18, Prague 1 – Old Town

www.ladegustation.cz

Michelin-starred "La Degu" serves a deluxe tasting menu of Czech-inspired dishes that's both creative and delicious. Reservations essential.



INSIDE:

- Calendar of events
- Get to know: Vinohrady
- Taste of the Season
- ... AND MUCH MORE

WINTER & CHRISTMAS PREVIEW

the Prague

Prague City Tourism Maps and Guides will make you feel at home in Prague.

... and many other complimentary titles to pick up at our visitor centres, where we'll be glad to help.

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content subject to change

www.praguecitytourism.comwww.prague.eu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This calendar offers only a small selection of the most interesting events that will take place in Prague from Dec. 2016 to early Mar. 2017; dozens of others are presented on our regularly updated website www.prague.eu. Here you can find more detailed information about events, tickets, and more.



Henri Rousseau, *The Snake Charmer*, 1907, oil on canvas, Paris, Musée d'Orsay

Douanier Rousseau: Painter's Paradise Lost
until Jan. 15, 2017 / National Gallery in Prague – Kinský Palace / Staroměstské nám. 12, Prague 1 – Old Town
The exhibition was realised in cooperation with the Musée d'Orsay in Paris. Its authors place Rousseau into the context of other renowned artists and try to trace stimuli linked with archaism, classicism, and his unique vision of realism. The works from the Paris exhibition are supplemented with works by Czech artists (such as Otto Gutfreund, Jan Zrzavý, and Toyen) which presents the painter's impact on the Czech environment. The exhibits were borrowed from a number of prestigious domestic and international institutions and private collections.

Henri Rousseau, known as the Le Douanier, is one of the most respected artists of the turn of the 19th and 20th century. His works attracted not only intellectuals as Guillaume Apollinaire and collectors such as Wilhelm von Uhde, but also many painters. In his pictures, he anticipated or solved similar problems to Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin, Pablo Picasso, Frida Kahlo, etc.

ART AND DESIGN

Three Centuries of American Prints from the National Gallery of Art in Washington
until Jan. 8, 2017 / National Gallery in Prague – Veletřní Palace / Dukelských hrdinů 47, Prague 7 – Holešovice
American graphic art is covered both thematically and chronologically in these 140 works that range from the colonial and revolutionary periods to iconic works of the 20th century by Pollock, Warhol, and Lichtenstein.

Josef Istler
until Jan. 15, 2017 / Museum Kampa / U Sovových mlýnů 2, Prague 1 – Lesser Town
Czech painter and graphic designer Josef Istler is one of the leading figures in Czech and European surrealism and informalism. This exhibition at the Kampa Museum presents the wide range of his works – from informal ones with roots in surrealist expression to abstract linear compositions and figurative works.

Photographer of the Stars: Sam Shaw (1912–1999)
until Jan. 15, 2017 / Prague City Gallery – House of Photography / Revoluční 5, Prague 1 – New Town
The name of photographer Sam Shaw has become synonymous with the covers of Life and Look magazines. From the 1950s he turned his lens to the world of film, which

he mapped through hundreds of portraits of film stars (yes, the iconic portrait of Marilyn Monroe with flying skirt is his).

Josef Sudek 1896–1976
until Jan. 20, 2017 / Strahov Monastery / Strahovské nádvoří 1, Prague 1 – Hradčany
This year marks the 120th anniversary of the birth as well as the 40th anniversary of the death of one of the most respected Czech photographers. This exhibition includes a comprehensive set of original photographs, supplemented by unique portraits of Sudek by Czech artists, as well as documentary photographs of his life.

Cranach from All Sides
until Jan. 22, 2017 / National Gallery in Prague – Šternberg Palace / Hradčanské nám. 15, Prague 1 – Hradčany
This exhibition presents the German Renaissance painter and his circle through unique works from the collections of the National Gallery in Prague. The group of Prague works attributed to Cranach is diverse and includes popular scenes such as The Old Fool, Christ and the Adulteress, and The Original Sin.

Jaroslav Horejz (1886–1983)
until Jan. 29, 2017 / House at the Stone Bell / Staroměstské nám. 13, Prague 1 – Old Town
Jaroslav Horejz is one of the most remarkable Czech sculptor, yet his work has been exhibited only sporadically. The Prague City Gallery is correcting this oversight with the most

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Bohuslav Martinů Days
Nov. 20 – Dec. 22 / various venues
The festival offers a cross-section of the work of Bohuslav Martinů, whose personal compositional style is indelibly imprinted on musical modernism of the 20th century.

Erwin Schrott – Rojotango
Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. / Municipal House – Smetana Hall / nám. Republiky 5, Prague 1 – Old Town
Celebrated Uruguayan opera baritone with Rojotango offer a fascinating journey into the world of Latin American tango and South American folk songs.

José Cura for UNICEF
Dec. 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. / Municipal House – Smetana Hall / nám. Republiky 5, Prague 1 – Old Town
Composers Alberto Ginastera, his student Astor Piazzolla, Carlos Guastavino, and Silvestre Revueltas are key cultural figures in their home country. Although all are fully rooted in their culture, their influence is felt throughout the entire world, as is that of Argentinian José Cura, who will tell stories of his compatriots from the conductor's podium.

Czech Touches of Music
Dec. 16, 2016 – Jan. 6, 2017 / Municipal House, Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia, the Clementinum and various venues
This international music festival is one of the largest focusing on classical music during the winter. The programme includes masterpieces of orchestral, chamber, and recital music.



photo: Marek Musil

Carnevale Prague
Feb. 17–28, 2017 / city centre
Once again this year, the biggest carnival celebration in Prague will offer a full programme of concerts, carnival parties, dinners, shows, and competitions. The festival continues the tradition of historical allegorical festivities that have taken place in the Czech lands since the Middle Ages.

Prague Music Festival – Václav Hudeček and Guests
Dec. 20, 2016, Jan. 17, and Feb. 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. / various venues
This chamber music festival is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Its founder and artistic guarantor, the leading Czech virtuoso and violin legend Václav Hudeček, invites renowned musicians and young talents to perform.

Simon Keenlyside – Blue Skies
Jan. 10, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. / Municipal House – Smetana Hall / nám. Republiky 5, Prague 1 – Old Town
Hits from classical Broadway and Hollywood musicals are still beloved today. British baritone Simon Keenlyside fell under their spell, and offers some of them to the Prague audience.

Czech Philharmonic – Francesco Piemontesi
Jan. 25, 26, and 27, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. / Rudolfinum / Alšovo nábřeží 12, Prague 1 – Old Town
Francesco Piemontesi has earned himself a place among the top contemporary pianists with his amazing technique and deep musical intelligence. During three evenings in January, he will present works by Bohuslav Martinů, Ludwig van Beethoven, Ferenc Liszt and others.

Chanticleer – An Orchestra of Voices
Feb. 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. / Rudolfinum / Alšovo nábřeží 12, Prague 1 – Old Town
A true orchestra of voices, this unique men's choir from San Francisco sings songs from the Renaissance to contemporary and classical music, including gospels and spirituals.

OTHER EVENTS

Grand Restaurant Festival
Jan. 15 – Feb. 28, 2017 / select Prague restaurants
The popular food lovers' festival lets you eat at the best and most interesting restaurants from the Maurer's Grand Restaurant Guide at special festival prices.

Prague Wine Week
Jan. 30 – Feb. 5, 2017 / Jalta Boutique Hotel and Vinograf wine tasting centre
A special festival of wine, wineries, and gastronomy. Throughout the week, experts and wine lovers can meet over a glass of excellent wine in Prague restaurants, wine bars, and wine shops. The event culminates in a gala tasting of award-winning wines from the Prague Wine Trophy 2016.

Vinohrady Carnival Market
Feb. 8–28, 2017 / Tylovo náměstí, Prague 2 – Vinohrady
Traditional Shrovetide festival with stands offering delicacies typical of these folk celebrations. In addition to gastronomic specialities, visitors will also find small handicrafts and gift items.

One World (Jeden svět)
Mar. 6–15, 2017 / arthouse cinemas in Prague
Over 100 documentary films from all over the world head for Prague's arthouse cinemas in March. One World is one of the largest international documentary film festivals focused on human rights in the world.

HAVEL
until Feb. 13, 2017 / Centre for Contemporary Art DOX / Poupětova 1, Prague 7 – Holešovice
An extensive exhibition on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Václav Havel's birth presents the photographic work of two leading Czech photographers – Tomkí Němec and Bohdan Holomíček, who for many years recorded both pivotal and ordinary moments in the life of playwright, politician, president and citizen Václav Havel.



photo: © Tomkí Němec, Cubo d'Arco, 14 December 1990

OTHER MUSIC GENRES

ZAZ
Dec. 7 and 8 at 8:00 p.m. / Forum Karlín / Pernerova 53, Prague 8 – Karlín
The energetic French singer returns to Prague and will play two concerts. ZAZ covers everything from jazz to blues, from French songs to African, Brazilian, and Latin American genres.

Green Day
Jan. 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. / Tipsport Arena Prague / Za Elektrárnou 419, Prague 7 – Holešovice
After seven long years of waiting, it's finally here. Punk rock legends Green Day are coming to present both their new album and old hits.

Ennio Morricone – The 60 Years of Music World Tour
Feb. 4, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. / O2 Arena / Českomoravská 17, Prague 9 – Vysočany
At this exceptional concert, the Italian icon of film music together with the Czech National Symphony Orchestra will present music from famous spaghetti westerns as well as the composer's latest work.

The 1975
Feb. 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. / Forum Karlín / Pernerova 53, Prague 8 – Karlín
The English indie rock band has recently released their second album, and it's rapidly heading up the American and British charts. They're now touring Europe in support of the album.

Lindsey Stirling
Mar. 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. / Forum Karlín / Pernerova 53, Prague 8 – Karlín
Enchanting violinist Lindsey Stirling combines violin playing with energetic choreography for a truly unique performance. Her videos on YouTube have over a billion views and tickets to her concerts disappear at breakneck speeds...



photo: archives of Lindsey Stirling

John McLaughlin & The 4th Dimension
Mar. 5, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. / Forum Karlín / Pernerova 53, Prague 8 – Karlín
John McLaughlin, one of the world's most famous guitarists, composers, and founder of the fusion style of music, performs with his group The 4th Dimension.

designSUPERMARKET
Dec. 8–11 / Kafka House / nám. Franze Kafky 3, Prague 1 – Old Town
An international sales festival and meeting point for the contemporary Czech design scene offers a microcosm where people meet design and designers meet with people in an informal environment and a relaxed atmosphere.

Prague of Charles IV – A Grandiose Building Site in Europe
from Dec. 13 / City of Prague Museum – House at the Golden Ring / Týnská 6, Prague 1 – Old Town
This new permanent exhibition, focusing on the urbanism of the territory of Prague and its changes in the 14th century with an emphasis on the period of Charles IV and the Luxembourg dynasty, closes out the Year of Charles IV, commemorating the 700th anniversary of his birth.

Czech Photo Centre – New Photography Gallery Czech Photo Centre / Na Zlaté 1, Prague 5 – Nové Butovice
A brand-new multi-genre art space which exhibition programme focuses on works of leading Czech and international photographers. The gallery includes an outdoor installation by David Černý called Trifot, which takes the form of an animated walking monster whose head consists of a set of cameras (real brands and types) and its legs are tripods. Using lenses, Trifot also watches the surrounding areas and selected passersby are displayed on large screens.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas season in Prague is a time for cultural events. Get inspired at our special thematic website www.christmasinprague.com.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CONCERTS

Advent Concerts at the National Theatre
Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11, and 18 at 11:00 a.m. / National Theatre / Národní 2, Prague 1 – New Town
programme: Czech Christmas Mass by Jakub Jan Ryba and Christmas carols

Advent Concerts at the Rudolfinum
Nov. 27, Dec. 4, and 11 at 3:00 and 5:30 p.m., Dec. 18 at 3:00 p.m. / Rudolfinum / Alšovo nábřeží 12, Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: pieces of Frédéric Chopin, Maurice Ravel, Antonín Vranický, Jakub Jan Ryba and others

Christmas with the Chorea Bohemica
Dec. 9 at 7:00 p.m. and Dec. 10–11 at 11:00 a.m., 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. / Prague Castle – Ball Game Hall, Prague 1 – Hradčany
programme: Christmas carols and songs

Traditional Advent Concert – Zimohraní Festival
Dec. 18 at 6:00 p.m. / Church of the Holy Saviour / Salvátorská 1, Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: Czech Christmas Mass by Jakub Jan Ryba, Christmas carols and more, performed by Praga Camerata

Dagmar Pecková and Štěpán Rak: Together & Christmassy
Dec. 19, 20, and 21 at 7:00 p.m. / Lucerna Palace – Great Hall / Štěpánská 61, Prague 1 – New Town
For the first time, world famous opera diva Dagmar Pecková and equally renowned guitarist Štěpán Rak meet on the stage in Prague's Lucerna.

Prague Music Festival – Christmas Meeting
Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m. / Žofín Palace / Slovanský ostrov 226, Prague 1 – New Town
programme: pieces of Antonio Vivaldi, Jakub Jan Ryba, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and others

Chorea Bohemica at the Estates Theatre
Dec. 22 at 7:00 p.m. and Dec. 23 at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. / Estates Theatre / Železná St., Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: Christmas carols and songs

Advent Gospels: Stella Jones & The Christmas Gospel Singers
Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. / Church of St Anne – Prague Crossroads Centre / Liliův St., Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: world gospels performed by this renowned American choir

Jakub Jan Ryba: Czech Christmas Mass
Dec. 25 at 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. / Church of Sts Simon and Jude / Dušní St., Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: Ryba's traditional mass performed by the Prague Symphonic Orchestra and the Kühn Choir of Prague

Christmas Concert at the St Nicholas Church at Malá Strana
Dec. 25 and 26 at 5:00 p.m. / Church of St Nicholas / Malostranské náměstí, Prague 1 – Lesser Town
programme: Czech Christmas Mass by Jakub Jan Ryba, Adeste Fideles, Czech carols

Christmas Organ Concert
Dec. 26 at 4:00 p.m. / Basilica of St James / Malá Štupartská 6, Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: Christmas songs and Czech pastorals including works of Antonio Vivaldi, Johann Sebastian Bach and others

THEATRE AND BALLET

Eddie Izzard
Dec. 5 at 8:00 p.m. / Prague Congress Centre / 5. května 64, Prague 4 – Nusle
Eddie Izzard is bringing his Force Majeure show to Prague for the first time ever – a man who can talk about "bollocks" artistically, who sold out New York's Madison Square Garden, and who became the first stand-up comedian to perform solo at the legendary Hollywood Bowl.

Royal Russian Ballet: Romeo and Juliet
Dec. 13 and 14 at 7:00 p.m. / Prague Congress Centre / 5. května 65, Prague 4 – Nusle
The renowned ensemble will perform Prokofiev's ballet accompanied by the Czech National Symphony Orchestra. The Royal Russian Ballet dances this work with great vigour, yet with the tenderness of the lovers who have so little time left for their love.

New Year's Concert: Olga Peretjatko and the Czech Philharmonic
Jan. 1, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. / Rudolfinum / Alšovo nábřeží 12, Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: pieces of Gioachino Rossini, Hector Berlioz, Giuseppe Verdi, Giacomo Puccini and others

New Year's Concert: Prague Symphony Orchestra
Jan. 1, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. / Municipal House – Smetana Hall / nám. Republiky 5, Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: Antonín Dvořák's Slavonic Dances, Op. 46 and Op. 72

New Year's Concert in the Basilica of St James
Jan. 1, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. / Basilica of St James / Malá Štupartská 6, Prague 1 – Old Town
programme: festive pieces for trumpet, organ, and timpani

EXHIBITIONS

Nativity Scenes at the Clementinum
Nov. 23, 2016 – Jan. 8, 2017 / Gallery Klementinum / Křižovnická 190, Prague 1 – Old Town
Historical carved nativity scenes from the baroque period up to the end of World War II.

From the Pagan Solstice to Christian Christmas – Sun and Nativity Scene in the Bethlehem Chapel
Nov. 24 – Jan. 3, 2017 / Bethlehem Chapel / Betlémské nám. 4, Prague 1 – Old Town
A diverse overview of Czech and Slovak nativity scenes, decorated Christmas trees, and presentations of traditional handicrafts.

Nativity Scenes From Třešť in the Jindřišská Tower
Nov. 25, 2016 – Feb. 2, 2017 / Jindřišská Tower / Jindřišská St., Prague 1 – New Town
Hand-carved nativity scenes, scented with fresh moss and needles, are testaments to the skilled hands of the Třešť nativity scene carvers.

Christmas Miniatures
Nov. 25, 2016 – Jan. 1, 2017 / Botanical Gardens of the Charles University / Na Slupi 16, Prague 2 – New Town
Miniatures with a Christmas theme, trees decorated with ornaments made of different materials, mini-nativity scenes, devil's paradises, and heavenly sceneries.

Exhibition of Historical and Contemporary Nativity Scenes
Nov. 26, 2016 – Jan. 4, 2017 / Gallery Ambit – Church of Our Lady of the Snows / Jungmannovo nám. 18, Prague 1 – New Town
Jiří Votruba's Mechanical Nativity Scene (4.5 m long), a Nativity Scene Constructed in the Třešť Tradition with historical figures carved by Boudný (3 x 2.5 m), and many contemporary and historical nativity scenes.

New Year's Eve with Mozart
Dec. 31 at 7:30 p.m. / Estates Theatre / Železná St., Prague 1 – Old Town
Celebrate the arrival of the new year at this unique, stylish celebration in the spirit of W. A. Mozart. Top class artistic and gastronomic experiences await you. The ticket price includes a performance of The Magic Flute or a generous, imaginative buffet inspired by the opulent banquets at the court of Emperor Joseph II.

Viva La Mamma! (Poprask v opeře)
Premiere Feb. 9 and 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. / Estates Theatre / Železná St., Prague 1 – Old Town
An opera about opera, as this comedy can be summed up, offering Donizetti's brilliant bel canto music and the entertaining storyline. The opera is a kind of demi-glacé 19th century musical comedy which undoubtedly suits the tastes of today's consumers.

Christmas by Josef Lada
Dec. 11, 2016 – Jan. 1, 2017 / Chvaly Chateau / Na Chvalské tvrzí 3, Praha 9 – Horní Počernice
Reproductions of Josef Lada and fun not only for children. The exhibition features picturesque reproductions of Czech villages and churches by Josef Lada on the first floor of the Chvaly Chateau.

Christmas Exhibition
Nov. 27, 2016 – Feb. 3, 2017 / Charles Bridge Museum / Křižovnické nám. 3, Prague 1 – Old Town
Nativity scene made of straw with figures of the Holy Family and animals, the Vltava Fish Nativity Scene, an African carved mahogany nativity scene, and other unique nativity scenes.

THEATRE

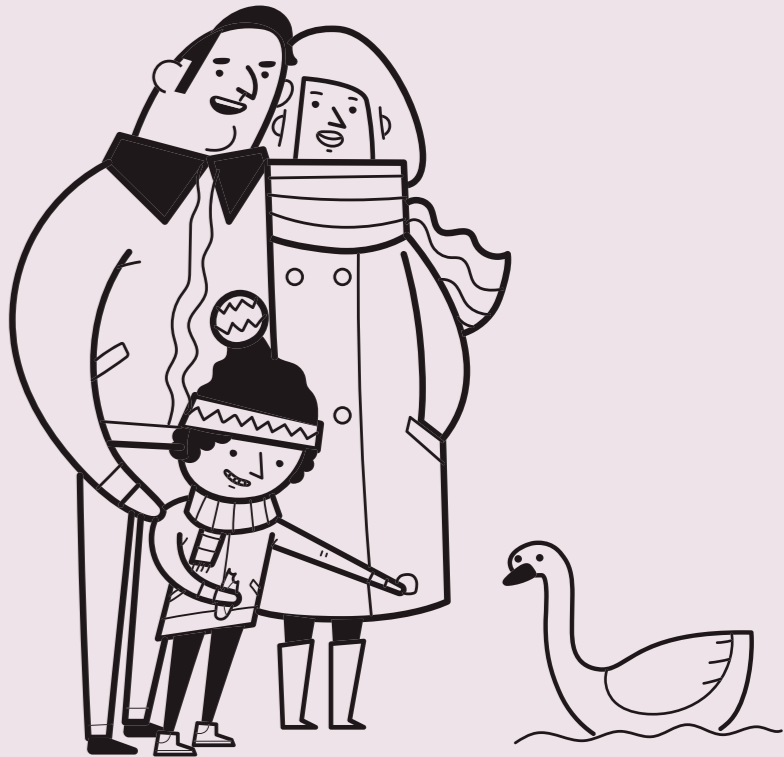
The Nutcracker and the Cuddly Mouse
from Dec. 1 / National Theatre / Národní 2, Prague 1 – New Town
The legendary Christmas tale in a new, original production. A tale full of poetry, humour, imagery, and magic unfolds to the sounds of Tchaikovsky's famous music.

The Nutcracker – A Christmas Dream
from Dec. 5 / Hybernia Theatre / nám. Republiky 4, Prague 1 – New Town
Another version of the magical story full of Christmas miracles.

OTHER EVENTS

New Year's Fireworks Display
Jan. 1, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. / Letná's Parks (The Metronome)
Breathtaking light choreography over Prague is the ideal start to the new year.

Procession of the Three Kings
Jan. 6, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. / city centre
The Three Kings on camels rides from the Church of St Thomas in the Lesser Town across the Charles Bridge to the Old Town Square.



Tosca
Premiere Jan. 28 and 29, 2017 / National Theatre / Národní 2, Prague 1 – New Town
This new production of Tosca is staged by the internationally acclaimed French director Arnaud Bernard. This operatic thriller about the famous singer Tosca, her lover, the painter Cavaradossi, and the treacherous police chief Baron Scarpia is set in 1800 in Italy during the Napoleonic Wars.



photo: Eliška Kyselková and Katarína Témová