



Funicular to Petřín



Prague Castle Gardens

The Vltava River is a place for romantic relaxation. You don't believe it? Then go visit the islands in the Vltava and rent a small paddle boat and let the river carry you away. Tourist boats will pass you as Prague's historic **bridges** file by. From the water you can look in amazement at the medieval quarters on both banks of the river.

In the middle of the pulsing city, on Kampa Island, you can sit down in the grass or at a garden restaurant between renaissance palaces.

Ledeburg Gardens



# **ARCHITECTURE**

Prague is home to buildings that carry man across time. The symbol of the Czech state, Prague Castle, reaches back deep into the country's history. The castle complex features a mixture of a Romanesque basilica, a Gothic cathedral, and a Baroque palace, in addition to modern representative interiors from the 20th century.

The medieval Charles Bridge joins the king's Castle with the residential area, Old Town. Floods, wars, even fires have taken nothing from these sites. The cobblestones that pave the roads on which Prague citizens walk have lasted ages. In the Malá Strana area, just below the Castle, lies a



Baroque town with dozens of awe-inspiring palaces, impressive churches, and picturesque, little streets. On the other side of the river sits the well-preserved Gothic Old Town with the sharp lines of its town hall and church spires and its silent little squares.

### Areal view of St. Vitus Cathedral



## Important Information from the Net

Czech Tourist Authority www.czechtourism.com

Prague Information Service www.prague-info.cz Public Transport in Prague www.dp-praha.cz in the Czech Republic www.idos.cz Czech Airlines

www.czech-airlines.com



Official tourist information centres are marked with a small letter "i".

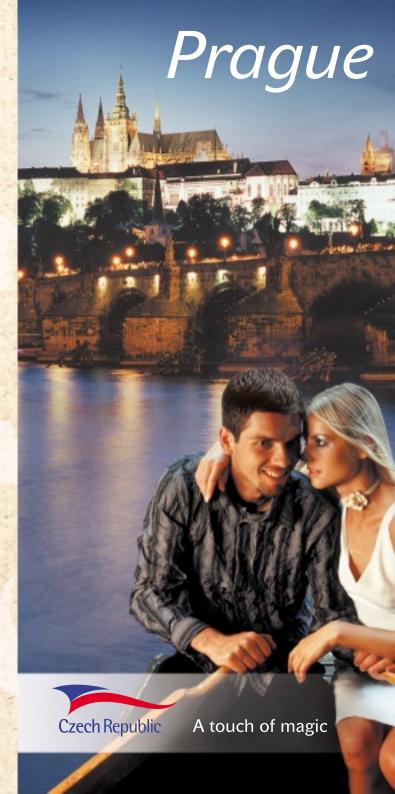


Prague Underground



Historic Streetcar / Tram

Published by SENS, s.r.o. on behalf of the Czech Tourist Authority
Text: Jakub Turek
Graphic Design: Radek Bakeš
Photography: Bakeš, Drahoňovský, Dvořák, Hasman, Hurin, Pohribný, Štecha
Translation: Brady Clough
© 2003







Čertovka Stream Kampa Island

# Every minute of every hour of every day: a city to explore

The hundred-spired mother of all cities, Prague. A city that never ceases to amaze. The regular guest, the summer tourist or even the local native - they all find something new and pleasing here every day. Medieval palaces, a bustling commercial area, or a quiet pub. Prague is a city of European culture. You won't find as many architectural monuments, galleries, concerts, nature preserves, or as much entertainment and relaxation in one small space anywhere else on earth.

Many-spired Prague







**METROPOLIS** 

Flora Shopping Centre

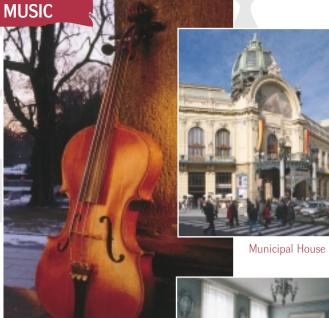
Wenceslas Square - National Museum

People travel to Prague to explore, for the culture, for tourism ... and to shop. It's pleasant to learn that brand name goods are somewhat cheaper here than in many other West European cities. Dozens of large shopping centres are open 24 hours; others close as late as a couple of hours after midnight. Prague's historic centre includes occasional and daily open-air markets with artwork, wooden toys and souvenirs. Cut glass, painted porcelain, and precious stones including Czech garnets remain quality, time-tested, typical Czech goods.









People tend to describe musical interests in the Czech Republic by exclaiming a phrase known all over Europe: "If he's Czech, he's a musician."

The most prized music in Prague is classical **music**, which is played in concert halls adapted to project the sound of symphony orchestras. The historic Rudolfinum, the Art-Nouveau gem, Obecní dům (Municipal House), and the modern Prague Congress Centre host the best artists each year. Music fans from all over the world flock to the Prague Spring Festival.

Artists such as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Antonín Dvořák and Bedřich Smetana lived, composed and directed their most famous works in Prague.

National Theatre

Bertramka Villa





### Castle Steps

Prague is above all else a city of secrets and mysteries. Each street in the Old Town has its ghosts. Around midnight a headless knight allegedly rides on his horse in one street. Somewhere else a fiery man moves about and a woman in white walks along the walls of the castle fortifications in the light of a full moon. Author, genius of secrets of the modern world, and analyst of its relations and mechanisms, Franz Kafka, lived in this environment. The hardworking office employee absorbed the Czech, German, and Jewish soul of the city. His home was built literally on the border between two Prague quarters called the Jewish Town and Old Town. Today a small square named after the famous author and the Franz Kafka Centre occupy this site. The Centre houses Kafka's written works and the story of his life.







