

Conference Guide

Conference Venue

Conference Location: Ambassador Zlata Husa

The Ambassador Zlata Husa Hotel in the historical heart of Prague provides luxury accommodation in tastefully furnished rooms right in Prague's center on the famous Wenceslas Square pedestrian area. The hotel offers a distinctive conference center with various meeting rooms and exclusive catering facilities on an international level with the total capacity of up to 1500 guests. One of the main highlights of the Ambassador Zlata Husa hotel is its gorgeous Art Nouveau Congress Hall with the capacity of up to 800 guests.



Address: Vaclavske namesti 5-7, 111 24, Prague 1, Czech Republic

Tel: +420 224 193 111

Fax: +420 224 230 620

Email: hotel@ambassador.cz

URL: <http://www.ambassador.cz>

History of Prague

The history of the city goes back to the foundation of Prague Castle by Borivoj in 870 AD. Prague Castle has been a symbol of Czech history for centuries. After 894 it became the main seat of the oldest ruling dynasty of the state Bohemia, the Premyslid princes (Premyslovci). The first to leave a written record of the existence of a busy commercial center and settlement below Prague Castle was the Arab-Jewish merchant Ibrahim Jakub Ibn, who visited Prague in 965 or 966 and described it as a town "built of stone and mortar". During the first half of the 11th century, on the opposite bank of the Vltava, another castle was founded, called Vysehrad. The first stone bridge (Judith's) was built in 1172. Prague became a town during 13th century and the Old Town and the Little Quarter were founded by colonization. The beginning of the 14th century saw a series of dynastic disputes - beginning with the death of Vaclav II. The following year, the murder of his son, the heir, Vaclav III, marked the end of the Premyslid dynasty and Bohemia was left without a male heir. In 1310 Czech nobles offered the throne to John of Luxembourg but it was his son Charles IV (1346-1378), king of Bohemia and Holy Roman



Emperor, who ushered in Prague's golden age and made it his residential capital. King Charles IV carried out the reconstruction of Prague in High Gothic style, adding new, expensive buildings such as the Castle, at Vysehrad and in the town. He founded the oldest university in Central Europe in Prague (1348), Charles University, founded and built the New Town of Prague (1348) and adorned his residential town with numerous structures and public buildings like Charles Bridge (1357), magnificent St. Vitus' cathedral, the Slavonic Abbey, the church at Karlov and many others. With its 50, 000 inhabitants and covering an area of 8.1 squares Km Prague became the largest town in Europe at that time. Shortly after the Emperor's death in 1378 difficulties cropped up. In 1541 there was a great fire at Prague Castle, in Hradcany and the in the Little Quarter. Nor did Prague become the seat of the throne when Ferdinand, the Roman Catholic Hapsburg was elected King of Bohemia (1526) and the Kingdom of Bohemia became part of the Hapsburg monarchy and after the defeat of the first anti-Hapsburg uprising of the Bohemian Estates (1547) the Prague town's people lost a large part of their property and political privileges. But it was a period when culture flourished thanks to the personality and court of the

art-loving Emperor Rudolph II (1576-1612) who moved his seat to Prague in 1583 and endowed Prague's galleries with the best Mannerist art in Europe and invited the respected astrologist Tycho de Brahe and Johannes Kepler and other famous scientists to his court. From 1575 to 1577 there was a struggle over the Bohemian Confession; from 1608 to 1611 one of the focal points was the question of a successor to Rudolph II. The defenestration at the Prague Castle in 1618 marks the date the 30 year war started in Europe with the catholics and the reformed fighting each other. After the "Battle of the White Mountain" where the catholic Hapsburgs won, 27 of the leaders of the loosing team were decapitated on June 21, 1621 at Old Town square. This day marks the coming of the dark ages for the Czechs, when the Hapsburgs take over until 1918. During this time, the German language is introduced as the second, if not the more important language in the country. During the reign of the Hapsburg queen Maria Teresia, education was made mandatory for all children, boys and girls. Commercial life developed favorably and many factories started working in the city. In 1784 Emperor Joseph II. merged the four historical Prague Towns (the Old Town, New Town, Little Quarter and Hrad?any) into one unified Capital City of Prague, which became the core of industrialization of Bohemia and the center of Bohemian national revival. After WWI, in 1918, Czechoslovakia became a republic with Tom Garrique Masaryk becoming its first president. After 1945 Prague's role, size, structure and social importance were decided even more emphatically by national aspects imposed on it, without taking much account of the city's own development needs. With the Cold War in full swing the Stalinization of Czechoslovakian society was quick to follow. In the year 1968 movement demanding "socialism with a human face" known as the "Prague Spring", lead to the invasion of Czechoslovakia. On 21st August 1968 five countries of the Warsaw Pact occupied Prague. In 1989 brought democracy to the country with Vaclav Havel becoming the president. On January 1st 1993, after the split of Czechoslovakia, Prague became the capital of the Czech Republic. During 2003 the people of the country voted to become a member of the European Union. This has taken effect on May 1, 2004.

Official Web Page of Prague: <http://www.praguewelcome.cz>

Source: <http://www.guidingprague.com/en/prague-overview/brief-history-of-prague>

How to get to Prague

By Air:

Prague - Ruzyně International Airport (PRG) is a modern and spacious international airport located on the northwest edge of Prague, around 17 km north of the city.

Visa: Before you start planning your travel to Prague you should visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' web page to see if you need to get a visa.

List of States whose citizens are exempt from Visa requirement:

More information: http://www.mzv.cz/jnp/en/information_for_alien/index.html

Prague International Airport (PRG)

Monday – Sunday 8:00 - 20:00

Address: Příletová hala, Terminál 2, Tranzitní prostor

Praha 6 - Ruzyně

Tel.: +420 221 714 444

Email: tourinfo@pis.cz, uts@pis.cz

Tourist Information Centre @ Old Town

Monday - Saturday 9:00 - 19:00

Address: Old Town Square, Old Town, Prague 1

Tel.: +420 221 714 444

Web: <http://www.praguewelcome.cz/>

How to get from the Airport to the Hotel

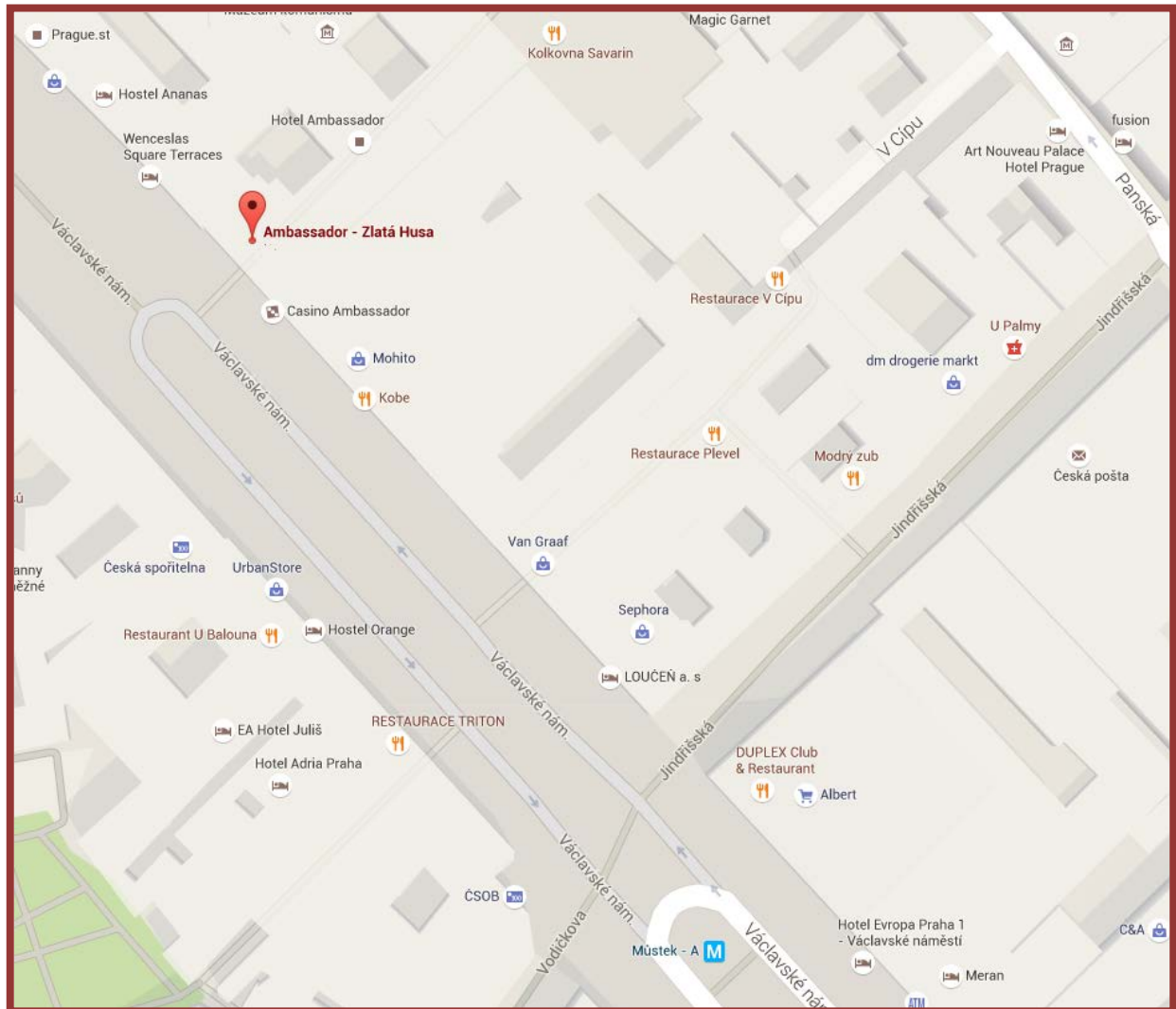
By Car:

Follow the signs to City Center until you see the Evropska Street. Follow this street until you get to a roundabout (approx. 7.5 km); bear right - onto Svatovitska Street. At the main traffic light, make a left onto Milady Horakove Street. Travel approximately for 5 km. When you get to the 10th traffic light, turn right. Go across Hlavkuv Bridge. You will now be on Wilsonova Street. Go approximately 2 km, passing the main rail station, and at the first traffic light, make a right onto Wenceslas Square. The hotel is located at the upper part of the square on your right hand side.

Car Hire:

Prague Airport Car Hire provides Car Hire from the following rent a car companies worldwide. Hertz, Avis, Alamo, Budget Dollar, National Sixt, Thrifty Eurocar. All car rental offices are

located in a separate hall on the ground floor of Parking C. Car rental offices can also be contacted via e-mail or phone



By Public Transportation:

By bus and by metro

From the airport, take the Bus 119 to the Dejvická metro station. Then, take the green line (Line A) to the Mustek metro station. When leaving the station, use the exit labeled “Václavské/Náměstí.” The hotel is located about 5 minutes walk from the exit of the metro station.

Ticket Types & Price:

Basic ticket 90 min:

35 CZK (adults),
16 CZK (child),
32 CZK (junior 15-19 years old),
32 CZK (students 19-26 years old),
16 CZK (seniors over 60 years old)

Short-term 30 min:

24 CZK (adults),
12 CZK (child),
24 CZK (junior 15-19 years old),
24 CZK (students 19-26 years old),
12 CZK (seniors over 60 years old)

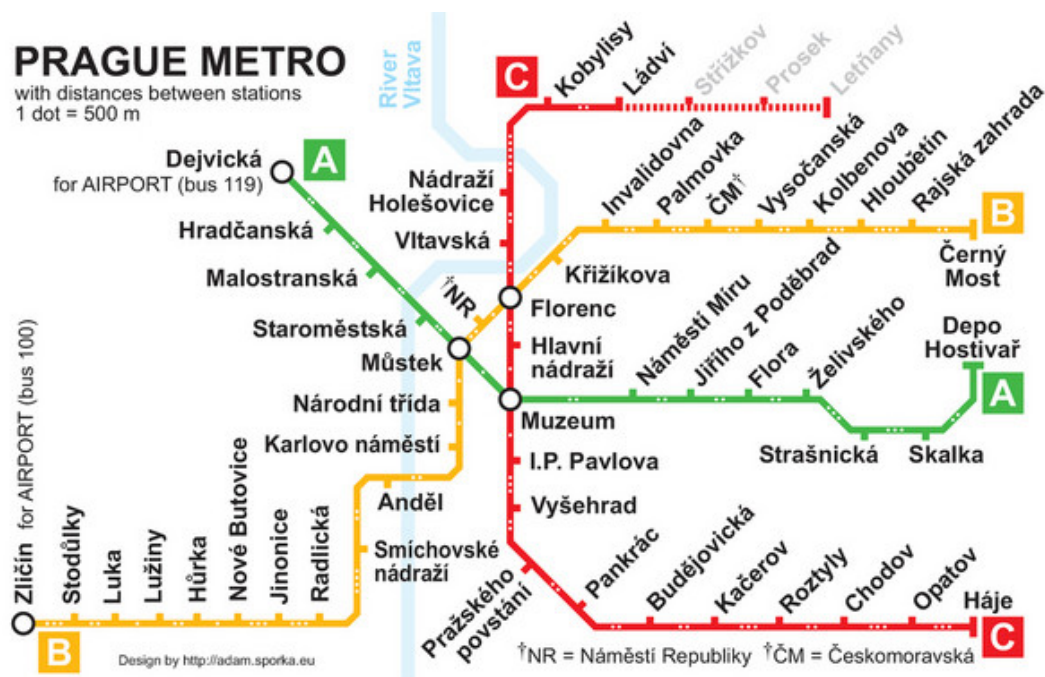
24 Hours ticket:

110 CZK (adults),
55 CZK (child),
110 CZK (junior 15-19 years old),
110 CZK (junior 15-19 years old),
55 CZK (seniors over 60 years old)

For more information:

<http://www.dpp.cz/en/fares-in-prague/>

<http://www.dpp.cz/en/daytime-operation/>



Public shuttle bus from airport to the centre of Prague

There is a shuttle bus transportation from Prague - Ruzyně Airport to the city centre. The journey from the airport to the V Celnici Street takes 30 minutes approximately.

Daily every 30 minutes: "V Celnici" street - airport: 7:30 am - 7:00 pm. Airport - "V Celnici" street.

Buy your Ticket:

- On Board
- at the mini bus Cedaz information desk
- Ticket Vending Machines

Fares:

- 130 CZK ticket for one person between terminals (transport from the airport to "V Celnici" street or vice versa).
- Children under 6 years accompanied by adult are free of charge.
- Transport of 1+1 standard luggage per person is included in price; persons with more or with oversized luggage are excluded from regular shuttle bus transport. In this case they are advised to use transport by ordering a special minibus for fare appropriate to this kind of transport.

For more information you can visit:

<http://www.cedaz.cz/public-shuttle-bus-from-airport-to-prague-centre.php>

Taxi

Taxis are located in front of the arrival halls at Terminal 1 - exit D, and at Terminal 2 - exit E.

Price: 14.90 to 26.90 CZK per km.

Taxis Companies:

- AAA Radiotaxi - tel. 14014 or +420 222333222
- City Taxi - tel. +420 257257257
- Profi Taxi - tel. 14035 or + 420 261314151
- Halotaxi - tel. +420 244114411
- Sedop - tel. +420 777666333

Should you wish you may fill the on-line form to book a taxi:

<http://www.radiotaxi.cz/Taxi-order/>



PLACES TO VISIT

The Prague Castle

The Prague Castle is a National cultural monument. Since its foundation in the last quarter of the 9th century it has been developing uninterruptedly throughout the past eleven centuries. It is a monumental complex of ecclesiastical, fortification, residential and office buildings representing all architectural styles and periods, surrounding three castle courtyards and covering 45 hectares. Originally it used to be the residence of princes and kings of Bohemia, since 1918 it is the seat of the president.

Address: Downtown 119 08 Praha 1

Opening Hours: Prague Castle Sights & Attractions: Apr-Oct: Daily 09:00-18:00

Prague Castle Complex: Apr-Oct: Daily 05:00-24:00

Prague Castle Gardens: Apr & Oct: Daily 10:00-18:0

Changing of the Guard: Every hour 06:00-23:00. Midday ceremony includes a fanfare & banner exchange.

Admission Fee: Prague Castle - long visit: CZK 350, Family admission: CZK 700

Tickets are valid for two days (the day of the purchase and the following day).

Lesser Town Bridge Towers

Essentially, the tower at the western end of the bridge comprises two towers of different appearance, origin and size. The smaller of the towers was erected in the Romanesque style. It was part of the Judith Bridge (which was Prague's first stone bridge built in the first half of the 12th century) but it is actually older. The first references to the tower date back to 1249. The second, taller tower began to be erected with the construction of Charles Bridge in 1357 using the Old Town Bridge Tower on the opposite bank of the river as a template. Naturally, it was not finished until a century later under the reign of George of Poděbrady. Both towers are linked by a gate with a spire dating from the beginning of the 15th century. From the beginning of the 15th century, the smaller tower (the so-called Judith Tower) was used as a jail and it retained this role for another two hundred years.

Address: Downtown Charles Bridge Praha 1 - Staré Město 110 00

Opening hours: November - February: Daily 10:00-18:00

Admission Fee: full admission 75 CZK, discount 55 CZK



Old Town Hall with the Astronomical Clock

The history of the Old Town Hall began in 1338, when King John of Luxembourg granted Prague's Old Town the right to establish its own administrative centre. The original basis for the town hall became the gothic house of the wealthy merchant Wolflin of Kamen, for whom a stately tower was built in 1364. The Old Town Hall is associated with the most significant events in the country's history. This is the place where the king of Bohemia George of Poděbrady was selected in 1458.

Address: Staroměstské náměstí 1/3, Praha 1 - Staré Město 110 00- Old town Square

Opening Hours:

Tower: January – December: Monday: 11:00-12:00,
Tuesday – Sunday 09:00-22:00

Interior: January – December: Monday: 11:00-18:00,
Tuesday – Sunday 09:00-18:00

Admission Fee: Tower - full admission 105 CZK, discount 55 CZK

Josefov - Prague Ghetto

The Jewish Quarter in Prague, known as Josefov, is located between the Old Town Square and the Vltava River. Its torrid history dates back to the 13th century, when the Jewish community in Prague were ordered to vacate their disparate homes and settle in one area.

Address: U Staré školy 1, Praha 1, Staré Město/Josefov

Opening hours: April – October: Daily: 09:00-18:00 (closed on Saturday and Jewish holidays)

Entrance Fee: full admission 300 CZK, Under 15s and students: 200 CZK



Strahov Monastery

The Royal Canonry of Premonstratensians at Strahov is one of the oldest monasteries of the Premonstratensian Order in the world. It has been a working monastery practically ever since it was founded in 1143. Fire, the Hussite Wars, religious wars, and the Communists all failed to shut down this institution. Even when the members of the monastery were unable to live within its walls, they gathered wherever they could and nurtured the spirit of their House until they were able to return to the monastery complex.

Address: Piazza di San Pietro in Vincoli, 4/a, 00184 Rome

Opening Hours: Daily (except for the 25th December and Easter Sunday) 09:00-17:00,
lunchtime break 12.00 p.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Admissions:

Entrance Fee: "Strahov Monastery and St Norbert": Basic: 40 CZK, Reduced: 20 CZK,
Family: 80 CZK

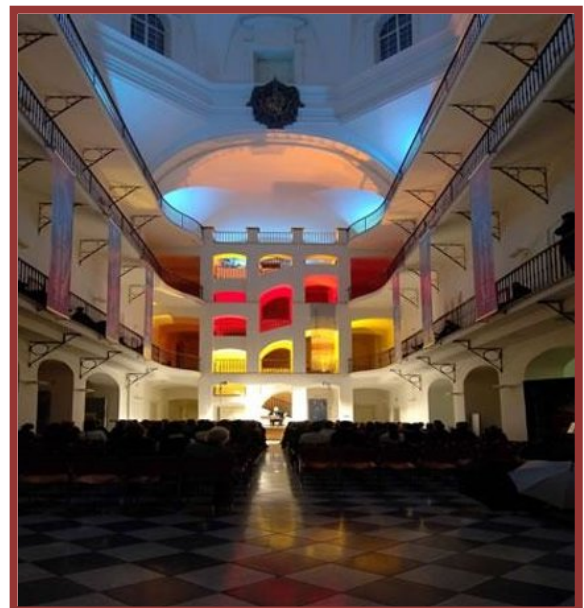
Entrance Fee: "Strahov Picture Gallery": Basic: 80 CZK, Reduced: 40 CZK, Family: 150 CZK

Czech Museum of Music

The Czech Museum of Music is located in the former Baroque church of St. Mary Magdalene, built in the 17th Century. The building underwent major reconstruction a few years ago, and now blends early Baroque church architecture with contemporary design. The grandiose assembly hall has been revitalised. Its stonework gleams once more, and lighting, both natural and from spotlights, shows off the true height and intricate aspects of the building.

Address: Karmelitska 2, Lesser Town, Prague 1, Czech Republic

Opening hours: Wed-Mon 10:00-18:00



TOURS

Enjoy Prague's sights with the live tour guide, including Old Town Square, Prague Castle, Strahov Monastery, Kampa Island, the Metronome, Vltava River, Petrin Hill and Lookout Tower, the Dancing House, St Ciril and Method Church, Charles Square, National Museum and much more!

Fees: Adults €48, Children (up to 10 years old) €20

Contact information:

Address: Rytirska 4, Praha 1, 11 000, CZ

Phone number: +420 777 070 783

Email: booking@pragueallinclusive.com

URL: <http://www.pragueallinclusive.com/>

Cruises and other Tours Brochure:

http://www.pragueexperience.com/sightseeing/river_cruises.asp



DINNING IN PRAGUE

Czech cuisine has been influenced by the cuisines of boarding countries. Many of the fine cakes and pastries that are popular in Central Europe originated in the Czech lands. Czech cuisine is marked by a strong emphasis on meat dishes. Pork is quite common, and beef and chicken are also popular.

Beer Factory

Beer factory is located in the center of Prague, near Wenceslav Square.

Address: Václavské nám. 58 Praha 1 - Nové Město, 110 00, Prague

Tel: +420 234 101 117, +420 736 630 868, +420 777 298 023

E-mail: info@beer-factory.cz

URL: <https://www.facebook.com/beerfactory.prague/>

Ambiente Restaurant

Here you will find no menu cards by traditional means. It is a Brazilian inspired restaurant. They have one menu, where you get up to 18 different kinds of meat, fish and desserts all grilled on a spear. It is superior delicious, and you can eat as much as you can.

Address: Slovansky dum, Na Prikope, 22, Praha 1, Prague

Open Hours: Mon-Sat, 12.30pm-3pm, 7.30pm-11pm

Tel: +420 224 234 47

URL: <http://brasileiro.ambi.cz/en/>



Hajnovka

One of the great variants for a memorable dinner in Vinohrady District is a traditional Plzen restaurant Hajnovka, located on Vinohradská Street. Since 1930-es the restaurant has been famous for its culinary traditions and special hospitality.

Address: Vinohradská 25, 12000 Praha 2

Phone: +420 224 218 386

Bily Konicek Restaurant & Jazz Club

Bily Konicek Restaurant in Prague is located in the stunning 12th century medieval cellars of one of the oldest houses on the Old Town Square. Bily Konicek (White Horse) has modern furnishings, with an emphasis on glass and dark woods; creatively blended into an array of historic alcoves and open rooms, spread over several levels.

Address: Old Town Square 20, Old Town, Prague 1, Czech Republic

Phone: +420 221 421 160

URL: <http://www.pragueexperience.com/places.asp?PlaceID=1213>



Thrilling Middle Ages

Would you feel like experiencing something special and also unexpected and in addition having both fun and excitement together with excellent food and galore of beer and wine with no limit. Do not waste your time and book this tour as soon as possible. You will visit a little town eastward of Prague. After a visit of the manor house decorated with hunting trophies and after making you familiar with beer brewing history you will spend an exciting evening in a local tavern.

Address: Old Town Square

Phone: + 39 06 679 5310

URL: <http://www.praguetoursdirect.com/prague-at-night/medieval-tavern-dinner-prague.htm>



More options to dine in Prague:

<http://www.praguewelcome.cz/en/dine/>

Sources:

<http://www.praguewelcome.cz/>

<http://www.mzv.cz>

<http://www.citysightseeingprague.com>

<http://www.guidingprague.com/en/home-prague-tours>

<http://www.pragueexperience.com>