

# 10+1 REASONS TO VISIT PRAGUE



## MANDARIN ORIENTAL, PRAGUE A POLISHED JEWEL IN A CITY OF TREASURES

- 99 luxurious, atmospheric rooms and suites

- award-winning Spa, Lounge, Spices Restaurant and Bar
- housed in a former monastery with Renaissance and Baroque details
- centrally located in the heart of historic Malá Strana, Prague's most scenic district
- 5 minutes from Charles Bridge and St. Nicholas' Cathedral, 15 minutes from Prague Castle

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- the area is dotted with stylish cafés, restaurants, boutiques, and public gardens
- 30 minutes by car from Prague-Václav Havel airport

### It's Beautiful.

Spared during World War II, Prague is among the Old Continent's best-preserved historic capitals, an array of medieval spires, stately cupolas, ornate facades and inspired Modernism. Add the gently flowing river, graceful bridges, a backdrop of verdant hills and you have one of the world's most beautiful cities (and a photographer's dream.)

#### It's Musical.

Beloved by Mozart, Prague is a city that continues to live for music. There are three sumptuous opera houses, four symphony orchestras, a half-dozen international festivals, and daily concerts held in churches, palaces, and concert halls, not to mention jazz and rock clubs. Plus Prague is the perfect place to hear music by one of the three iconic Czech composers - Smetana, Dvořák, or Janáček.

#### It's Easy to Discover.

Prague's compact size and excellent public transportation system make it a breeze to navigate, especially on foot. Most monuments are within sight of each other, and even without a sightseeing itinerary, simply walking around is an absorbing experience thanks to the wealth of architectural detail and lovely vistas at every step.

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#### It's Ever-Changing.

Having emerged in the 1990s from behind the Iron Curtain as the undisputed beauty among Eastern European capitals, Prague has maintained a dynamic pace of change with new museums, trendy restaurants, restored public spaces and ever-expanding leisure options cropping up. Each of its four seasons has its distinct charm: The city is at its most romantic when its green slopes burst into bloom in spring. Summer beckons with boating on the Vltava, open-air concerts and picnicking in the city's scenic parks and gardens. Autumn heralds the start of the opera and symphony seasons, as well as a bounty of game and mushrooms on the city's menus. Winter brings charming Christmas markets, holiday concerts and seasonal cheer.

### Its Architecture.

Prague boasts treasures of nearly every major architectural style. Punctuating its majestic Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque core are fine examples of Art Nouveau, Cubism and Functionalism. We especially recommend a guided tour of the Municipal House, a splendid Art Nouveau edifice with lavishly designed interiors, and a visit to the meticulously restored Villa Muller by Modernist visionary Adolf Loos.

#### Its Jewish Heritage.

Throughout centuries, Prague's Jewish community was a major part of the city's identity, and many outstanding monuments bear witness to its importance. The Old-New Synagogue is the oldest European temple still in use; legend has it that the body of the legendary Golem lies concealed somewhere in its attic. The ornate Spanish Synagogue often serves as a splendid concert venue. The Prague Jewish Museum is one of the world's finest and includes a moving Holocaust memorial dedicated to the 80,000 Czech Jews who perished during the Nazi occupation.

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#### lts Art.

Prague's museums and galleries are pleasantly small- to mid-sized and offer a wonderful choice of genres and styles. We recommend the splendid collections of the Lobkowicz Museum at Prague Castle; the Kampa Museum; the National Gallery with its collections of Mediaeval, 19th and 20th century European art; the Mucha Museum; the Museum of Decorative Arts; the Rudolfinum gallery; and the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art.

Haymaking by Pieter Brueghel the Elder, from the collections of the Lobkowicz Museum at the Prague Castle



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#### It's Romantic.

Prague's romantic appeal rests on more than a sum of its architecture, landscape, and history. Some say that mysterious currents intersect deep below the city, creating a kind of magical energy that's felt by every visitor. Others claim there is, on certain days, a golden light that makes Prague a vision of perfect beauty. Either might explain why spontaneous proposals are a frequent phenomenon, but even the non-marrying (or long-married) types will find Prague an ideal place for a getaway à deux due to its intimate size, visual charm, and abundance of cosy spots in which to enjoy each other's company.

#### Its Beer.

While Czechs have long been the world's undisputed beer drinking champions (some 160 litres per head annually), until a few years ago the range of local beers was limited mostly to pilsner-style pale lagers. Recently, however, the Czech beer industry has seen an explosion of small and mid-sized breweries producing high-quality specialty brews in every style imaginable, with a corresponding profusion of beer bars appearing in Prague. Our own Spices Restaurant and Bar offers several of the best Bohemian brews.



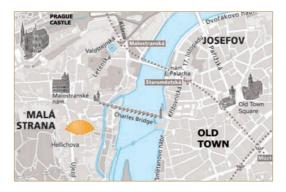
train from Dresden, four and a half from Vienna, five from Berlin, and six and a half from Budapest, Prague makes a fine starting (or ending) point for a grand tour of Central Europe. Even easier is a drive through the lovely Czech countryside dotted with ancient towns and castles, some just an hour or two from Prague.

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### STAYING AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL, PRAGUE

There are many good reasons for visiting the Czech capital but Mandarin Oriental, Prague is a destination in and of itself. Set like a gem amidst the palaces and gardens of Malá Strana, a historic neighbourhood dotted with stylish cafés, boutiques and galleries, the hotel is just steps away from Charles Bridge yet off the main tourist trail. After a day of exploring the city, unwind during a blissful massage in our beautiful Spa located in a onetime Renaissance chapel; the experience will add a new dimension to your memories. Explore the world of authentic Asian flavours and aromas, and try our original cocktails and unique teas while relaxing at Spices Restaurant and Bar. Our concierge team are happy to share their insiders' tips for making the most of your stay in Prague even before your arrival; feel free to contact them at moprg-concierge@mohg.com.





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