Prague

Project week - sightseeing in English
4. - 8.10.2010

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First day we saw Wenceslas square, the most famous square in Prague which is the commercial and cultural centre of Prague.

Previously, it was called Horse Market at the Middle Ages. Later, on the proposal of Karel Havlíček Borovský, who was a Czech journalist, it was renamed as Saint Wenceslas square.
Wenceslas square

The shape of the square is rectangular and the longer side has 682 metres. On the upper side of Wenceslas square is the building of National museum built in neo-renaissance style and the equestrian statue of Saint Wenceslas by Josef Václav Myslbek from 1912.
Day 2 - Vyšehrad

On the second day, we visited Vyšehrad. Vyšehrad is a castle which was probably built in the 10th century on a hill over the Vltava river. Within the castle, there is the Basilica of St. Peter and St. Paul and also the Vyšehrad cemetery, where famous people of the Czech history are buried, as Antonín Dvořák, Karel Čapek, Josef Václav Sládek etc.
Day 2 - Dancing House

On the second day, we also saw the Dancing House on Rašínovo nábřeží where we walked to from Vyšehrad. The "Dancing House" is a nickname given to the Nationale-Nederlanden (one of the largest insurance companies in Netherlands) building. It was designed by Croatian-Czech architect Vlado Milunic in co-operation with Canadian architect Frank Gehry.
Day 2 – The National Theatre

The National Theatre is known as the Alma Mater of Czech opera, and as the national monument of Czech history and art. It is built in neo-renaissance style. It was designed by Josef Zítek. The foundation-stone was laid on 16th May 1868. It was opened for the first time on 11th June 1881. Then, there was a fire and the second opening was in 1883.
Day 2 - Žofín

Žofín is also called Slavonic island. It is situated on the right "Newtown" riverside near the National Theatre. The island originated in the 17th century. Till 1838 the island is called Žofín according to Austrian archduchess Žofie, who was mother of emperor František Josef I. The building of Žofín is well known for its social gatherings.
Day 3 - Old Town square

The Old Town square is a historic centre of Old Town and there is a lot of tourists during all year. It has more than 9000 square metres. On the Old Town square there are many important landmarks as historical Town Hall, gothic Týn Cathedral, baroque St. Nicholas church and a famous astronomical clock, Orloj. In the centre of the square there is a statue of religious reformer Jan Hus.
Old Town square
Day 3 - Carolinum

It is a complex of historic buildings of the Charles University in Prague. It is located in Old Town. Today, Carolinum is the seat of the principal and the academic senate are sitting there.

It serves for ceremonial and prestige purposes as graduation or matriculation.
Day 3 - Charles Bridge

Charles Bridge is the oldest standing bridge over the river Vltava in Prague and the second oldest extant bridge in the Czech republic. It superceded the Juditin bridge, which was removed in 1342. Charles Bridge was finished in 1402 under the rule of Charles IV. The bridge is decorated by 30 statues. It is about 516 metres long and about 10 metres wide.
Charles Bridge
Day 4 - Lesser Town

Lesser Town is a district of Prague. Its one of the most historic regions.
Day 4 - Prague Castle

Prague Castle lies in Hradčany district. It is a castle where kings of Bohemia lived. Nowadays, the president of the Czech Republic has his office there. Also the Bohemian Crown Jewels are kept here. It is one of the biggest castle complexes in the world. It was established in 9th century. One part of the Prague Castle is also the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral.
Prague Castle
Prague Castle
The End

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Sources:
Sightseeing tour around Prague
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