

Concert Tour Prague for Brass bands / Czech Republic

One of the famous composers of Czech Brass Music is Jaromir Vejvoda (1902-1988), whose first composition Škoda lásky (Rosamunde/Beer Barrel Polka) presents the world wide success of Bohemian Brass music.

Since several generations, the family Vejvoda lives in Zbraslav, a small village south of Prague. All brothers of his father have been musicians and Jaromir Vejvoda took on the music band of his father in 1926. His first composition for this band in 1927 has been the „Modřanská polka“, which has been completed with text by Vašek Zeman in 1934 and was named now „Škoda lásky“. In 1938 this polka got as „Rosamunde“ a Golden Record for one million sold records. One year later the music publisher Shapiro Bernstein published this song as „Beer Barrel Polka“ at the US-market, where the Andrew Sisters, Glenn Miller and Benny Goodman integrated this song in their repertoire. Further compositions are i.e. „Farewell-Polka“, the „Optimist-Polka“, „Blue Eyes“, „Only Who Loves The Home“, „Summer Night In Prague“, „Darling, I Saw You Dancing“, „Blackbird-Polka“ und „In Your Arms“.

The musical heir of Jaromir Vejvoda is managed since his death by his three sons Jaromir, Ján and Josef. His youngest son Josef Vejvoda is going on with the musical family tradition: As a child he started to play in his father's band, later on he has been a successful musician in Jazz. After his father's death he became bandmaster of the Vejvoda-Band and the Salon Orchestra Josef Vejvoda. In 1995 he composed his first polka and later on his first waltz.

Josef Vejvoda is managing these workshops personally. Who else can know better the original interpretation of his father's compositions? After a previous selection of one composition of Jarmir Vejvoda, this composition will be rehearsed by Josef Vejvoda together with your band on the basis of the original arrangement. This is the way to learn how to play a perfect Bohemian Polka. The workshop will be in a concert hall in Prague. Chairs are available; music stands and instruments must be brought along by the band.

Representative program:

- Day 1: Arrival in Prague and meeting with the local guide with a welcome drink. Check-in and optional dinner.
- Day 2: In the morning workshop with Josef Vejvoda for about 2 hours. Optional lunch in the restaurant Skoda lasky (Rosamunde) in Zbraslav near Prague, which belongs to the Vejvoda family for generations. In the afternoon guided tour in the Old Town of Prague. Free time in the evening or optional dinner in a mountain lodge „To the female shepherd“ with gastronomic specialties from the grill and gipsy music. This lodge has been in the Seventies at the World Exhibition as a typical architecture example of mountain constructions in the Czech Republic and is situated today near the Prague centre.
- Day 3: In the morning guided tour in the Lesser Town and the Prague Castle. In the afternoon drive to the Spa Poděbrady (about 40 km on a highway eastern of Prague). Concert for Czech and German health resort patients. In the evening optional boat cruise on the Vltava-River, this crossed Prague in the centre.
- Day 4: Departure or optional extension in Mariánské Lázně (Western Bohemia) with another concert at the spa colonnade.



Standard Services:

- ♪ 3 nights in a superior-hotel (3 to 4 stars) in rooms with facilities
- ♪ 3x breakfast buffet
- ♪ Welcome drink at the arrival
- ♪ 2 hours workshop with Josef Vejvoda
- ♪ Hall rental for the workshop
- ♪ Organization of a concert in Poděbrady including English speaking assistance
- ♪ 2x half-day guided tours in Prague (without entrance fees)
- ♪ Poster advertising for the concert
- ♪ Each 21st person free of charge in double

Expenses:

The expenses are very different because of the different seasonal expenses and the individual wishes of the music group. As an idea the expenses for the mentioned standard services would be in April 2007 (except holidays) from € 189 per person sharing a triple or twin and € 262 for a single room accommodation with a minimum of 40 travellers. Not included in these expenses are transport, tips and beverages.

Optional Services:

Boat cruises at the Vltava-River, visit of concerts or operas and much more on request.

Air connections:

Beside the national carriers, several „No-frills“ are offering air connections to Prague:

From/to:	Company:	Information:
Basel, Bristol, Dortmund, East Midlands, London, Milano, Newcastle	Easyjet	www.easyjet.com
Cardiff, East Midlands, Nottingham, Manchester, Tees-side	BMIbaby	www.bmibaby.com
Barcelona	Clickair	www.clickair.com
Stockholm	Fly Snowflake	www.flysnowflake.com
Belfast, Blackpool, Edinburgh, Leeds/Bredford, Manchester	Jet2	www.jet2.com
Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Copenhagen, London, Milano, Paris, Rimini, Roma, Zürich		www.skyeurope.com
Barcelona, Madrid, Paris, Roma	Smartswings	www.smartswings.net
Milano, Venice	Volareweb	www.volareweb.com

Please ask the group departments of these companies for air fares. A coach rental for the ground services can be arranged by music & friends.

Coach tour:

If you plan to come by coach, please make sure that the coach is available also for all transfers and tours during the stay. If you plan activities at the evening of the arrival day or at the last day, please observe the rest period of the driver. Offers for a coach rental by music & friends on request.

July, 2007. All data are subject to change without notice, errors excepted. Duplication and third party usage is only permitted with authorisation from buchmann touristic & consulting.

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Impressions



Josef Vejvoda with the former Czech President Vaclav Havel



Josef Vejvoda in the German Television ARD (2003)