

Dear Reader,

September 12, 2007

European summer has passed quickly and our highlight in Vienna was the Cardiology Congress taking place with 29.000 doctors in town.

School started again beginning of September and we are ready for several incentive groups that will come to our beautiful countries soon during the next weeks.

You also might want to suggest **Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany, Slovenia, or Croatia** to your clients.

With the below information you will get a better idea of those countries. Here are interesting facts and news you may, or may not know:

### **Riesenrad: A View of Vienna with Culinary Delights**

The Riesenrad ("Giant Ferris Wheel") in the Prater is **one of Vienna's top landmarks**. And Vienna is also famous for its cuisine. Therefore, it only stands to reason to combine the two. You may want to enjoy not only the **spectacular view of the city** on your ride but also a **variety of excellent delicacies....**

You may choose between a genuine Viennese Imperial Breakfast, afternoon coffee and cake, champagne and canapés, or a romantic dinner for two.

For incentive groups, Invent can rent **luxury wagons** that each fit 8 participants on a long elegantly dressed table. It does not have to be night-time – the carriages are available any time by prior reservation during the hours of operation.

The Riesenrad, open all year, takes you **64.75 meters** up in the air. It was **built in 1896-97 by the British engineer Walter Basset**. Today, it also offers an attractive adventure world: At the entrance area, a "panorama" tells the story of this monumental steel wheel and the City of Vienna.



**> VIENNA: The  
Giant Ferris  
Wheel**

**Prague to welcome the world's cross-country skiers**

A cross-country skiing World Cup event will take place **in the complex of Prague Castle on December 30**, organiser Katerina Neumannová, former Czech cross-country ski champion, and Juerg Capol, race director of the International Ski Federation (FIS), told journalists.

"**No place in Prague is more beautiful than this**," Neumannová said, referring to the area around Hradčanské náměstí square where the race is to start. Capol said the FIS addressed Neumannová as she would guarantee that the event is well organised.

The free-style sprint race, called E.ON Prague Ski, will also be the second event of the Tour de Ski series. Its budget is some 15 million crowns.

**Besides the usual crowds of tourists that flock the streets of Ljubljana in the summer, this year the capital has been overrun with construction workers, as after years of stagnation, the city centre is getting a facelift.**

Construction sites abound around Slovenia's capital. Among the biggest renovation projects are works to **enliven the Plecnik underpass**, which links the centrally-located Kongresni trg square and the Maximarket department store, and renovation of a part of the Ajdovscina underpass with installation of new escalators.

Retailer Mercator, which owns Maximarket, is renovating the grounds around the department store, sprucing up the Plecnik square and the surrounding areas, which add up to around 6,000 square metres.

Meanwhile, construction works aimed at invigorating the city centre are also underway along Ljubljana's main avenue, Slovenska cesta, with **facades and frontages of several buildings currently being refurbished.**

The main work is being carried out on the Neboticnik building (literally "the Skyscraper"), one of Ljubljana's main landmarks, and the adjacent building of the country's central bank, Banka Slovenija.

The city has also taken up the task of putting in order and **reducing the size of some car parks** around the university hospital Klinični centre and alongside the Ljubljanica river.

**These renovations will make it even more worthwhile to visit Slovenia's capital city.**

> **Prague Castle to host cross-country skiing cup event on December 30, 2007**



> **Ljubljana's City Centre Getting Facelift**



The **railway link between Nyugati Railway Station and Terminal 1 of Ferihegy Airport** (Budapest Airport) has been put into operation with the official opening ceremony of the new Ferihegy Station.

Most of the trains running on the Budapest-Cegléd-Szolnok railway line will stop at the new station. The **duration of the journey will be 22-25 minutes**, tickets will cost 300 HUF. Passengers arriving to the Ferihegy Railway Station will be able to get to the terminal via a pedestrian overpass complete with elevators.

> **Budapest: Railway link between airport and central station**

**Ryanair, one of Europe's leading low-cost airlines**, announced that it would start services from Budapest in the autumn with the launch of its first route from Budapest to Nottingham, UK. They will fly **four times a week (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays) starting from 31 October, 2007**.

Ryanair will be the newest airline to start services from Ferihegy Airport in Budapest. Budapest Airport's route network will also be expanding further as **Nottingham** is a brand-new destination from Ferihegy. From the winter schedule three cities in the UK (**London, Manchester and Nottingham**) will be accessible by plane from Ferihegy. Stewart Wingate, CEO Budapest Airport said: „This is great news for Ferihegy and we are delighted that Ryanair has announced its intention to operate from Budapest Airport. This shows that there is still huge potential in the Hungarian low cost market.

„**Ryanair** will offer new travel opportunities for Hungarian passengers, and **will bring many passengers from the UK Midland area to Budapest**.

„The presence of Ryanair will also increase competition among low cost airlines, which is good news for our passengers, because the greater the competition the lower the price is.”

> **Budapest: Airport welcomes Ryan Air**



Croatia is famous for many things; its **coast has become one of Europe's most favourite holiday destinations**, tourists love to come here and enjoy the comfort of the hotels, beautiful beaches and the **passionate character of the country**. However, Croatia has something else up its sleeve: a true gem worthy of praise, **Dubrovnik**.

Its history is long and moving. Until Napoleon abolished its freedom, Dubrovnik had functioned as an **independent merchant republic for nearly 700 years**. It used to be a very rich and important port, and was known to be a major rival of the Italian Venice. Therefore even nowadays, tourists may notice many similarities between the two cities.

**Dubrovnik is easily approached by air**, though **many cruise ship operators** have added this charming town on their itineraries. Once on shore, the travellers are free to enjoy the charms of the old town. It was **completed in the 13th century and remains unchanged until today**. The city walls were built between the 13th and 16th centuries and are remarkably well preserved. Once inside the walls, the visitors come across the Stradun, local charming promenade. It is lined with pleasant cafés and restaurants, which offer the tourists to absorb the city's splendour from the comfort of their chairs. Even though the city was shelled in 1991/92 by Serbs and many about 70% of all buildings were hit, the city has been completely repaired. There are many attractive sights worth visiting. The Franciscan Monastery is one of them. It is proud to present **one of the oldest functioning pharmacies in the world, in operation since 1391**. The Prince's Palace, the church of St Vlaho, the Sponza Place or the baroque church of St Blaise are among other popular places the tourists visit.

**> DUBROVNIK:  
The Pearl of the  
Adriatic**



I am looking forward to receiving your requests in the near future.

Kind regards,

*Birgit Kraus*