

January 28, 2009

Dear Reader,

We received **great feedback** from many of our clients over the last months – just one small example I would like to share with you:

*"Thank you very much for the great effort and support. It was a great organization and very professional job from your side."*

**Amr Saafan, New Horizon Egypt**  
**75 pax to Salzburg in January 2009**

More references from our clients on [www.invent.at](http://www.invent.at)

Do you also 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 facts and news you may, or may not know:

> **the Austrian movie REVANCHE is nominated for an Oscar**

**Revanche. Written and directed by Götz Spielmann.**

The film is a veritable **ethnographic study** of the interface between **post-modern Central European human trafficking** and **pre-industrial Austrian bauern culture**.

The story starts out in the squalid world of Viennese prostitution, at a tacky brothel on the periphery. Alex works for the local prostitution boss and he has fallen in love with one of the Eastern European streetwalkers, Tamara, played by Irina Potapenko. When Tamara is recruited for a promotion to call-girl, she decides instead to run away with Alex. Here the story moves to the countryside where Alex's father lives in a miserable cabin on the outskirts of modern Austrian society.

Alex and his father speak to each other in a rich and authentic peasant dialect rarely represented in film. The name "revanche" has a double meaning in German, both revenge and a return match or a second chance, and it seems that both of these ideas are being developed throughout the story, as characters juggle their need to get even with their desire to secure their own futures. The tragic consequences of their every action lead them further and further down a path not of their own choosing.

Revanche was screened as an official entry at the **2008 Berlin Film Festival** and it is **nominated for the Oscar Foreign Language film in 2009**.

<http://www.revanche.at/MOVIE.8.0.html?&L=9>



**> Germans Celebrate 20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Wall in 2009**

The Berlin Wall has been a symbol of terror and brutality of a regime, which saw today's **Germany split into two parts**. Although many cinematic productions would have you believe otherwise, "only" around 200 people were shot at the site of the wall. The reason for this is that no other structure on the planet at the time struck so much fear into one nation that only the most daring even attempted to approach it.

The Germans want to remember the past, even wishing for foreigners to do the same. Many German cities are set to **Germans to Celebrate 20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Wall in 2009**.

There will be an **open-air exhibition in Berlin's Alexanderplatz** between the 7th and 9th of November in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the pulling down of the structure. A number of **museums** are devoted to the famous wall of terror.

For those fond of walking, the **160 km trail** shall be available for inspection, including the longest part, which still stands, i.e. the Muehlenstrasse. The birthplace of the fall of the wall, **Leipzig**, is also set to host an array of celebrations, which should see former East Germans and West Germans dancing together on the site of a wall, which used to keep them apart.



**> Czech Hluboka Castle is hosting European Ministers**

The Czech **European Union presidency** began on January 1. The opening gala meeting of the European Commission members naturally took place in Prague, yet also other towns and cities are going to have the honour of hosting the conferences of the top EU representatives. One of them is the south Bohemian town of Hluboka nad Vltavou.

In the local castle, that is a part of the **Czech national culture heritage**, an informal meeting of the 27 foreign affairs ministers of the member states of the EU and 8 foreign affairs ministers of the west Balkan countries will take place on March, 27 to 28. The ministers' suites, bodyguards and over 250 journalists from all over Europe will occupy the premises of the castle as well as most of the nearby 4\* hotels and restaurants.

The minister delegations will for example visit the Hluboka game park, the Ponesice distillery or the city of **Cesky Krumlov** which is on the UNESCO list of world heritage. During the meeting however the castle will remain closed for public. The citizens from Hluboka and the whole region may suffer from minor inconveniences such as local traffic jams but the government of the Southbohemian Region believes that the positive effects – especially promotion of the region abroad – will prevail.



> **Watertower  
– Cologne’s  
most avant-  
garde hotel**

For nearly 130 years, the water tower in Germany’s city of Cologne did not attract any particular attention. However, in 1990 it was transformed into a bizarre hotel. The **Wasserturm Hotel** is now one of the major tourist attractions in Cologne – it has history, it has style, and most importantly, it represents an ingenious idea. The hotel is located slightly outside of the city centre. It takes convenient twenty minutes by taxi from the airport. The building itself is a true spectacle. Classic 19th century appeal of the façade creates a mood of **unpretentious luxury and style**. On entering the hotel, one may feel rather shocked at how contrasting it is. The modern design and masterly use of space immediately impress all visitors. **Andrée Putman**, the interior designer, who worked on the transformation aimed at such effect. The rooms are a combination of **style and practicality**. The geometry of the water tower allows interesting design experiments and fashionable interior decorations. Especially the **11th floor restaurant**, La Vision, presents an unrivalled view over the city of Cologne. La Vision is an extraordinary restaurant, praised by many – in fact, it has been awarded the **Michelin star**, the highly-esteemed testimonial of a restaurant’s top quality. The Wasserturm Hotel is a unique and elegant hotel and now belongs to the most characteristic symbols of Cologne.



I am looking forward to receiving your feedback and your requests in the near future.  
Kind regards,  
Birgit Kraus