



The Best Galleries and Monuments in Prague

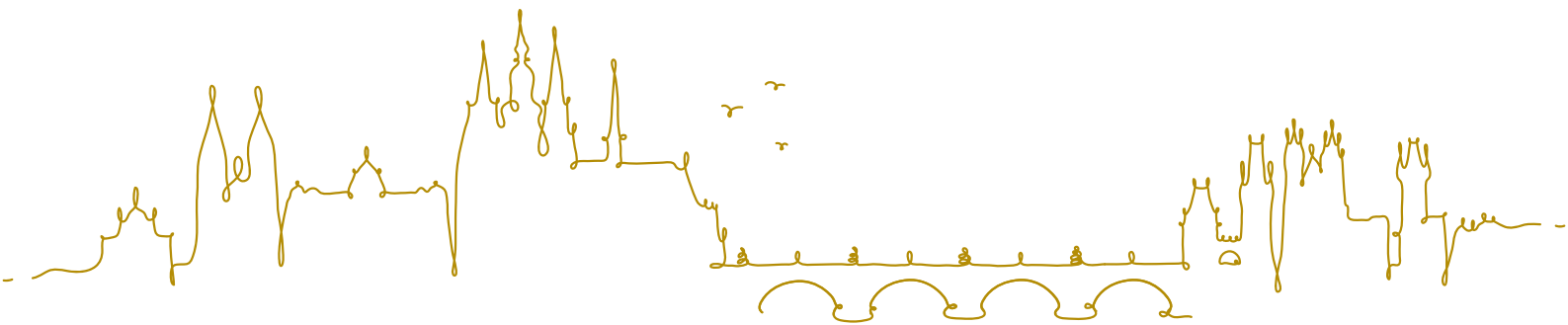
Prague is simply beautiful! Please find below our recommendations for the best galleries and monuments in Prague, to make your orientation easier.

National Museum

Perched atop of Wenceslas Square is the main building of the National Museum in Prague. The National Museum has over ten buildings in the capital and outside of the city, however the main building is by far the most grand. The objective of the National Museum is to further develop a Czech national identity within the Czech lands and to the world itself. The collection of the museum covers a wide area and includes botany, entomology, anthropology, zoology, archeology, mycology, paleontology, mineralogy and more.

DOX – Centre for Contemporary Art

Centre for Contemporary Art, DOX, is one of the youngest facilities on the Prague scene of museums and galleries. DOX was opened in 2008 as a space that will present to the general public contemporary modern design and art. DOX aims to present Czech art in an international context and provide a platform for dialogue between the foreign and Czech art scene. painting, sculpture, photography, design, architecture, film, video and new media and their various overlaps. Every year works of art of the finalists of the prestigious Jindřich Chalupecký Award given to young artists are displayed at DOX.





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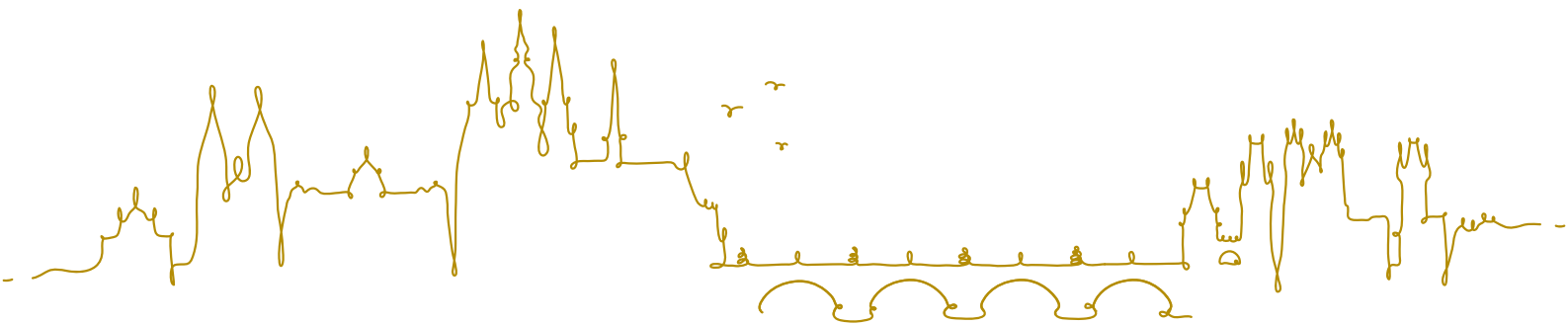
Prague Castle Picture Gallery

The massive Prague Castle complex holds many wonders. If you so happen to be a fan of classical art, then you cannot miss the Prague Castle Picture Gallery, a permanent collection that boasts the best art that belongs to the Prague Castle. The exhibition showcases about one hundred paintings out of the 4,000 paintings that the castle has in its possession. The possession of such a splendid collection of paintings is mostly thanks to Rudolf II, an avid art lover and collector of all cultural objects. The interior of the gallery is lovely and features a dark orange and teal color scheme along with wooden floors and vaulted ceilings.

The Princely Collections, Lobkowitz Palace at Prague Castle

This extensive palace (incidentally the only privately owned building within the Prague Castle complex, which is otherwise entirely government-owned) houses a splendid collection of art, antiques, and arms drawn from centuries-old collections of the Lobkowitz noble family. Works by Pieter Brueghel the elder, Velazquez, Lucas Cranach the elder, and Canaletto grace the walls of the Palace's many salons.

The Lobkowitzes were also patrons of music, and their holdings include several of Beethoven's manuscripts dedicated to Prince Josef Maximilian Lobkowitz, as well as Mozart's manuscript of his own re-orchestration of Haendel's Messiah.





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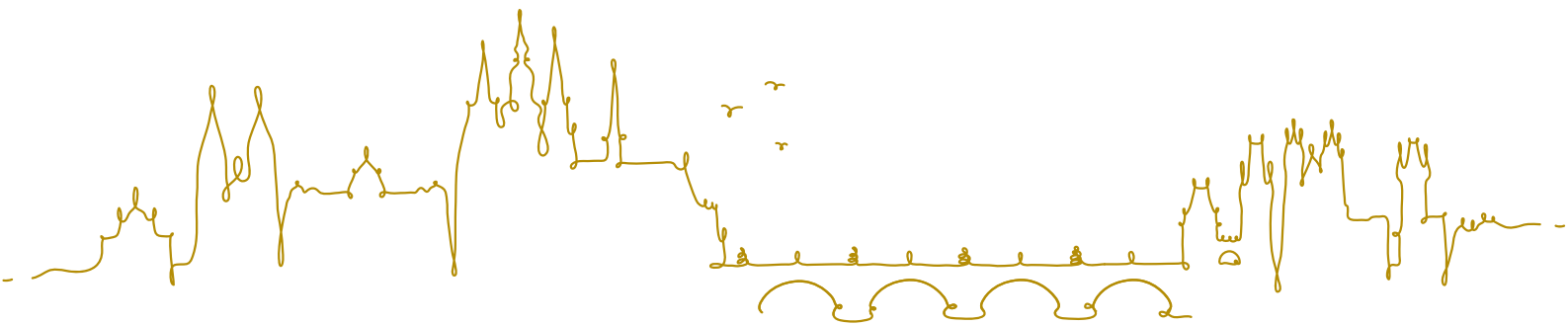
Kampa Museum

There are several interesting culture options in our own backyard: I highly recommend a visit to the Kampa Museum, featuring 20th century Czech and Central European art. Of particular note are paintings by abstract painter Franz (František) Kupka and Cubist sculptor Otto Gutfreund. The building itself is a sight to see – don't miss the glass terrace overlooking the river, and the gigantic chair sculpture by Magdalena Jetelová which had been washed a number of miles downriver during the 2002 floods, and then brought back.

The Muller Villa

This 1930 architectural masterpiece by influential Modernist architect Adolf Loos is one of Prague's best-kept secrets. The house, looking like a stern white cube set into the side of a hill in a leafy neighborhood west of the city center (easy access by tram from Hradčanská metro stop), conceals a sumptuous interior of interflowing spaces, undivided into separate floors. The most exquisite materials were used in furnishing the interiors and the result defies any notions of Modernist minimalism. The house can only be toured in very small groups and the tours must be pre-arranged; see the web site or ask our Concierge for details.

Our Personal favourite: Oriental room with the entrance to the terrace.





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St. Agnes Convent

The National Gallery has a number of branches – I strongly recommend the St. Agnes Cloister located in a quiet and charming area of the Old Town, which houses NG’s fabulous collection of medieval art from all over Europe. The quality (and quantity) of what is on display – mostly panel paintings and sculpture – is simply outstanding, but surprisingly few visitors find their way here; you will most likely be able to stroll the halls undisturbed.

The Rudolfinum Gallery

The Rudolfinum – an imposing neo-Classical building by the Manesuv Bridge in the Old Town – was formerly a parliament and now houses several concert halls and a gallery. The gallery has consistently interesting shows. Besides, the building is lovely too.

