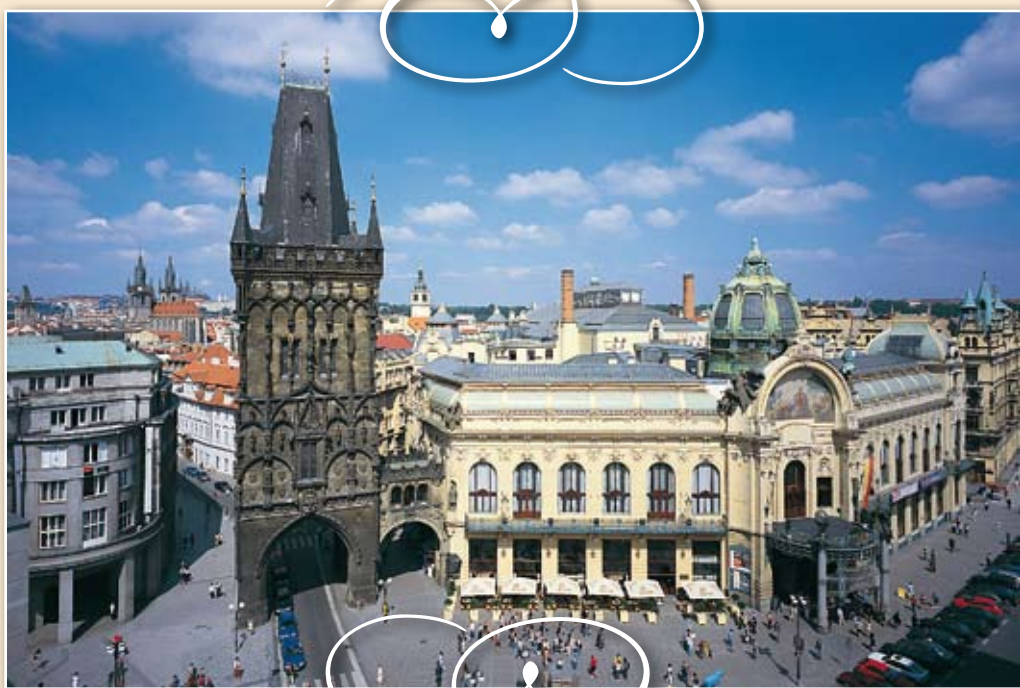


# Prague

## INTERCUP PREVIEW



by Jaroslav Lacina ■ photos by Prague Information Service

*Prague Intercup is a new international show of Purebred Arabian horses category B based on ECAHO rules, taking place for a first time in the Czech Republic. As the name of the competition implies, it takes place in the capital of Czech Republic - Prague. This city is considered to be one of the most beautiful in Europe. People use to call it „City of a Hundred Spires“, „magical“, „golden“ or a „Mother of Cities“. Writers, composers, poets*

*and tourists from the whole world - they all fell under her spell.*

*Prague is also the largest city of Czech Republic, situated on the banks of Vltava River. Its history goes to 11th century, when it was a residential town of Czech princes and kings and later of German-Roman emperors. The name of the city comes from the river weir, used by travelers to cross from one river bank to the other. Currently most known*



viewpoint of the city is the Prague castle, which is the biggest castle complex in the world and also an UNESCO cultural monument. Kings and emperors took residence there and today it is a residence of the President of Czech Republic. Part of the castle complex is a beautiful gothic cathedral of St. Vitus, emperor Charles the 4th placed its corner stone in 1344. Its interior includes the tombs of Czech saints and kings and also a chamber for Czech coronation jewels. The holders of the keys from the chamber are the top representatives of the church and of Czech Republic.

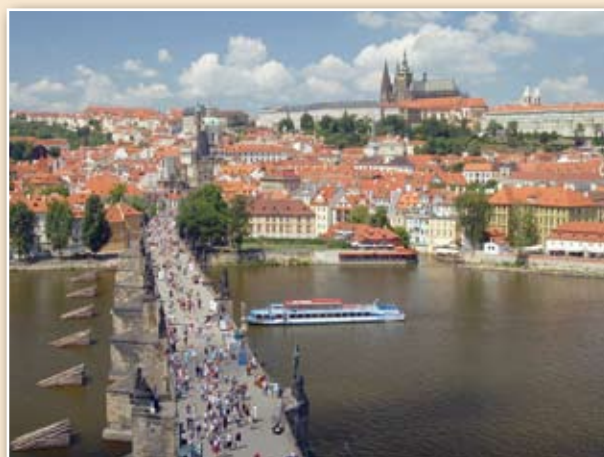
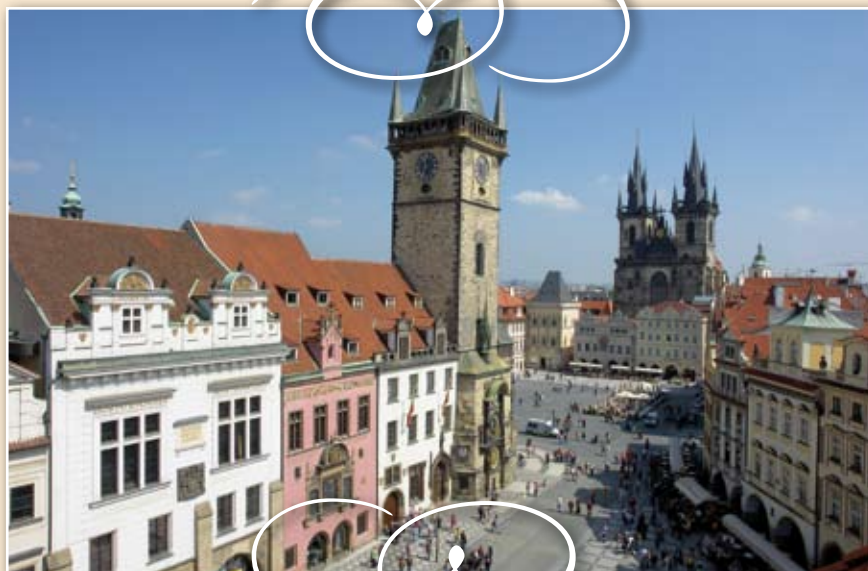
Below the Prague castle there is a beautiful historical quarter of houses with red roofs called „Mala Strana“. In the middle of this quarter Church of St. Nicholas is situated. Inside is a richly decorated interior with a total area of 3000 m2 of wall paintings. But the most attractive gothic monument of the whole Prague is Charles Bridge, 516 m long. Charles IV, the most important Czech monarch, started its construction in 1357. The bridge is decorated by the unique collection of 30 baroque statues from between of 17th and 18th century. Prague is also famous for its squares and plazas; most famous is the Old Town Square (Staromestske namesti). Old Town Hall, decorated by a beautiful medieval astronomical clock dominates it. Thousands of tourists congregate there to watch clockwork hourly show of figures of the Apostles and other moving sculptures. New history

is represented by Wenceslav Square (Vaclavske namesti), originally a horse market from 1348. This square is 750 m long and since 1890 dominated by the building of National Museum on the top. In front of this building a statue of St. Wenceslav, a patron of Czech land stands. The statue was a witness of many famous and tragic moments of recent Czech history. It was this square, where the independent Czech Republic in 1918 was declared, the end of the World War II in 1945 was announced and student Jan Palach set himself there on fire to protest the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Union in 1968. In 1989 huge congregations took place on Wenceslav Square in order to support so called „Velvet Revolution“ which ended the totalitarian communist regime in Czech Republic. At that time around 250 thousand people were present on Wenceslav Square. The international show PRAGUE INTERCUP will take place on Cisarsky Ostrov („Emperor Island“), which is well accessible for all visitors because it is situated

only 10 minutes public transport drive from the historical center. The show will take place inside the riding hall situated on this island, surrounded by river Vltava, biggest Prague park „Stromovka“ and beautiful complex of buildings of Troja castle.

On Saturday 4th September Czech National Championship will take place starting from 10 o'clock, judged by H.R.H. Princess Alia Al Hussein (JOR), C.Darius (DE)





# Prague

INTERCUP PREVIEW



and J.Bialobok (PL). For PRAGUE INTERCUP international show that will be opened in the afternoon on Saturday 4th September by junior classes the following judges accepted our invitation: Ch.Chazel (FR), A.Nordén (SE), F.Santoro (IT), P.Gamlin (UK). INTERCUP will continue on Sunday 5th September from 10 o'clock in senior categories and it will reach the peak in the afternoon hours with championships. Professional background facilities with possibility of refreshment during the day, VIP section, parking and interesting accompanying program will be prepared for visitors and participants. More than 80 horses from Europe and Middle East are expected, as well as high visitor attendance. Part of the project is also a charity Gala evening with an Arabic theme, taking place on Saturday 4th September. The evening, supported and visited by many political and cultural personalities of Czech Republic, will be an official start of Month of the Arabic Culture.

PRAGUE INTERCUP project is supported by a number of important local and international sponsors, such as AUDI Liberec, Royal Interier, SELVA, Al Khalediah Farm, Dubai Arabian Stud etc. Show is also supported by Ministry of Agriculture and its patron became the Chairman of Senat Dr.Sobotka.

A mix of historical charms of Prague city with a beauty of Arabian horses implies the unique atmosphere of this international show. We believe that both participants and visitors will find the place and the show attractive and will come back again in the future.

The organizer of both national and international show is ACHPAK CR – Czech Association for Purebred Arabian Horses headed by its president and international judge Jaroslav Lacina. All information regarding this show, including the registration forms, can be found on the website: <http://www.achpak.cz/pragueintercup>. The deadline for registration forms submission is 20th of July 2010. □

