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BUDAPEST AND PRAGUE IN 7 DAYS

7 days in Budapest and Prague. The programme includes the following places in Budapest: the Parliament, St. Margareth Bridge, Elisabeth Bridge, Fisherman's Bastion, St. Matthew's Church, the citadel, Heroes' Square, Basilicas of Pest, the thermal baths, the city of Szentendre. The programme also includes several attractions in Prague: the church of the House of Nazareth – Prague's Loreto, the Prague Castle, the Golden Lane, the Little Quarter, Charles' Bridge, the Old Town, the Jewish Quarter and the New Town, as well as sightseeing in Cesky Krumlov, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

1st day **Arrival in Budapest**

x Arrival in Budapest at *x*, flight number *y*. Meeting with the tour leader from Ernesto Travel and transfer by coach to the hotel in Budapest. Arrival and check-in at the hotel.

20.00 Dinner at the hotel or at a restaurant in the city centre. Overnight stay in Budapest.

2nd day **Budapest**

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00 Sightseeing in Budapest – the magnificent neo-gothic Parliament (the largest building in Hungary. It lies near the Danube River and was built between 1884 and 1902. There are 691 rooms in the building, it is 268 metres long and its dome is 96 metres high). Crossing the Danube via St. Margareth Bridge, walking to Buda, to the castle and the most famous monuments of Budapest. Visiting the Fisherman's Bastion with a splendid view of Budapest and the St. Matthew's Church – the centre of Buda, the coronation place of the Hungarian kings and queens. The Citadel. Crossing The Elisabeth Bridge on the way back to the centre.

13.30 Lunch in the city centre.

15.00 Continuation of sightseeing; Pest: Heroes' Square, City Park, Andrassy Avenue, the 36 metre-high Millenium Monument with Archangel Gabriel holding a holy Crown and the Patriarchal Cross. Walking to the Main Market Square, passing the Opera and St. Stephan's Basilica. Free time in the most famous shopping place in Budapest, on the Main Market Square, which was built in 1890 by Samu Pecz.

20.00 Dinner on a boat (May through October) or at a restaurant in the city centre (November through April).

22.00 Overnight stay in Budapest.

3rd day **Budapest – Szentendre – Esztergom – Budapest**

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00 Departure for Szentendre. Just 20 km from Budapest, there is a picturesque little town called Szentendre, which still preserves its ancient character, and dates back to the 18th and 19th centuries. Many painters, sculptors, and other artists live in this city

because of its ambience, beautiful location by the Danube River, as well as its architecture and monuments.

13.00 Dinner at a restaurant in Szentendre and departure for Esztergom.

15.00 Walking along the Danube River. Esztergom is the first seat of the Catholic Church in Hungary (sightseeing inside the basilica). Return to Budapest via Vyšehrad – the antique abode of the Hungarian kings.

20.00 Dinner at a restaurant with Gipsy music and a folk programme. The last night in Budapest.

4th day Budapest – Cesky Krumlov – Prague

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel.

9.00 Departure for Cesky Krumlov and sightseeing. The town is listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Moving on to Prague.

20.00 Arrival and check-in. Dinner at the hotel or at a restaurant in the city. Overnight stay in Prague.

5th day The Prague Castle, its surroundings and the Little Quarter

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00 Going up to the Castle Hill by coach. The rest of the sightseeing will be done by foot. Sightseeing starts in the Starohov Monastery which was founded in 1140 by King Vladislav II. Back then, it was bigger than the castle in Prague. Sightseeing at St. George's Basilica, the Church of the House of Nazareth – Prague's Loreto. According to the legend, the Golden Lane was a place where alchemists lived and practised their magic. Nowadays the street holds numerous souvenir shops. Passage down the Castle Steps towards the Little Quarter.

13.30 Lunch at a restaurant in the Little Quarter.

15.00 Sightseeing in the Little Quarter, starting with the church of Our Lady Victorious, with the famous statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague. At the beginning, it used to be a protestant church. Charles' Bridge is considered one of the most important Bohemian constructions from medieval times. The Little Quarter is surrounded by the Castle from the North and the Petrin Hill from the South. St. Nicholas' Church with a 79-meter bell tower is located in the Old Town's centre.

17.00 *Optionally: classical music concert.* Leisure time.

20.00 Dinner at a restaurant in the city centre or on a boat on the Vltava River.

22.00 Return to the hotel. Overnight stay in Prague.

6th day The Old Town, the Jewish Quarter and the New Town

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00 Sightseeing in Prague: the Old Town with its Market Square and Municipal House, the Church of Our Lady of Týn, St. James' Basilica – the longest church in this area, the Powder Tower – all these monuments are examples of Prague's magnificent architecture.

11.00 Sightseeing in the former Jewish Quarter, which dates back to the 11th century. This part of the city was developed in the 12th century. It is known for its ghetto situated in the centre of the Old Town. The New Town was founded by Charles IV of Luxembourg in the 19th century. We will also view the famous Wenceslas Square, where Czech citizens welcomed major political changes in the years: 1918, 1945, 1968 and 1989.

13.00 Lunch at a restaurant.

14.00 Leisure time.

19.00 *Optionally: the Black Light Theatre or the National Marionette Theatre.*

20.00 Dinner at a beer pub in the New Town. The last night in Prague.

7th day

Departure from Prague and from Czech Republic

x

Breakfast. Check-out from the hotel in Prague.

y

Transfer to the airport. Departure from Prague and from Czech Republic.