

# GOLDEN WELL HOTEL

| BY TRACY BEARD

The Golden Well Hotel rests just below the wall of Prague Castle in the Malá Strana, also known as Lesser Town, a hillside area with stunning views across the Vltava River and into the old town. This 5-star boutique hotel boasts 17 luxury rooms and 2 suites, world-class amenities, art and original paintings of Prague, an incredible restaurant, and one of the best locations in the city. Many of Prague's most impressive sights, including the Royal Gardens, St. Nicholas Church, Old Town Square, Prague Castle, numerous art museums, and eclectic architecture from multiple centuries, are within walking distance of the hotel.

## HISTORY OF THE HOTEL

During the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the property where the Golden Well Hotel now exists was a private residence and part of a collection of private houses; the property was converted into a hotel approximately 20 years ago. Prague thrived from 1583 to 1612 under Emperor Rudolf II. Each room at the hotel has its own individual personality and is named after someone connected to the court of Rudolf II to preserve the hotel's historical and cultural legacy. Rooms feature well-appointed furnishings of Richelieu reproduction antiques that speak to the history and luxury of the hotel. The pillow service features four or six down and hypo-allergenic pillows and a nightly bed turned-down service to inspire a good night's sleep in your bed with a luxury duvet or French bedding setup. Each room offers an iPad, writing desk, flat-screen LED TV, Nespresso or Illy coffee machine, and a selection of tea.

## VISIT TO PRAGUE

Recently my husband, Steve, and I visited Prague, and we stayed at The Golden Well Hotel in Room 21, the Roelant Savery room. Roelant was an artist who traveled to Prague from the Spanish-occupied Southern Netherlands around 1604 to become the emperor's court painter.

## BREAKFAST AT THE GOLDEN WELL

The morning meal can be enjoyed in the

breakfast room, boasting a stunning view of the city, or in the privacy of your room. Breakfast includes a beautiful buffet of fruits, charcuterie, cheeses, juices, coffee, tea, and more. The menu also offers an assortment of breakfast meats and hot dishes.

## FINE DINING AT GOLDEN WELL HOTEL

The Terasa U Zlate studne restaurant, located on the top floor of the hotel, is one of the top dining destinations in the city. The restaurant features two outside and one inside terrace with breathtaking views of "the city of one hundred spires." Italian architects Lorenzo Carmelini and Katrin Herden showcase their merged style of modern design and elements of the Renaissance era in the restaurant's new interior. Executive Chef Lukáš Hlaváček started at the restaurant last year and was previously selected by Forbes Magazine as one of the 30 under 30 talented professional chefs.

## THE BAR

The bar offers a carefree atmosphere with a terrace located high above the city where patrons can enjoy a wide selection of the finest wines, Champagnes, and cocktails while enjoying spectacular views of Prague's red roofs.

## EXPLORE THE CITY

The city of Prague was once considered very provincial. The architecture speaks to the city

planners' openness to include styles from each era. Steve and I spent a few hours with Kristian Mejstrik, who gave us a spectacular tour of the city, compliments of [Prague City Tourism](#). We also used our vouchers to ride the buses and the Prague Metro service for our remaining 3-day stay.

Our walk and Metro ride throughout the city with Kristian was informative and fun. I especially liked the bizarre artwork created by David Černý. David has made numerous pieces of unusual art found peppered throughout Prague. The Head of Franz Kafka, a Czech writer, was my favorite and is a sculpture in motion. The turning head statue, made of 42 pieces stacked on each other in layers, twists and turns until Franz Kafka's face is formed. The statue is outside the Quadrio business district.

Another unique piece, installed hanging from the ceiling in the Art Nouveau Lucerna Mall, represents King Wenceslas riding on the belly of an upside-down horse.

## BOOK A TRIP

Prague, the centerpiece of the Czech Republic, is a fabulous city. Its mix of Medieval architecture, cobblestone streets, and modern art is exciting and worth a visit. A stay at the Golden Well Hotel will set the mood and help you immerse yourself in the history and culture of the city while providing all the opulent amenities desired. ❖

