Terragon

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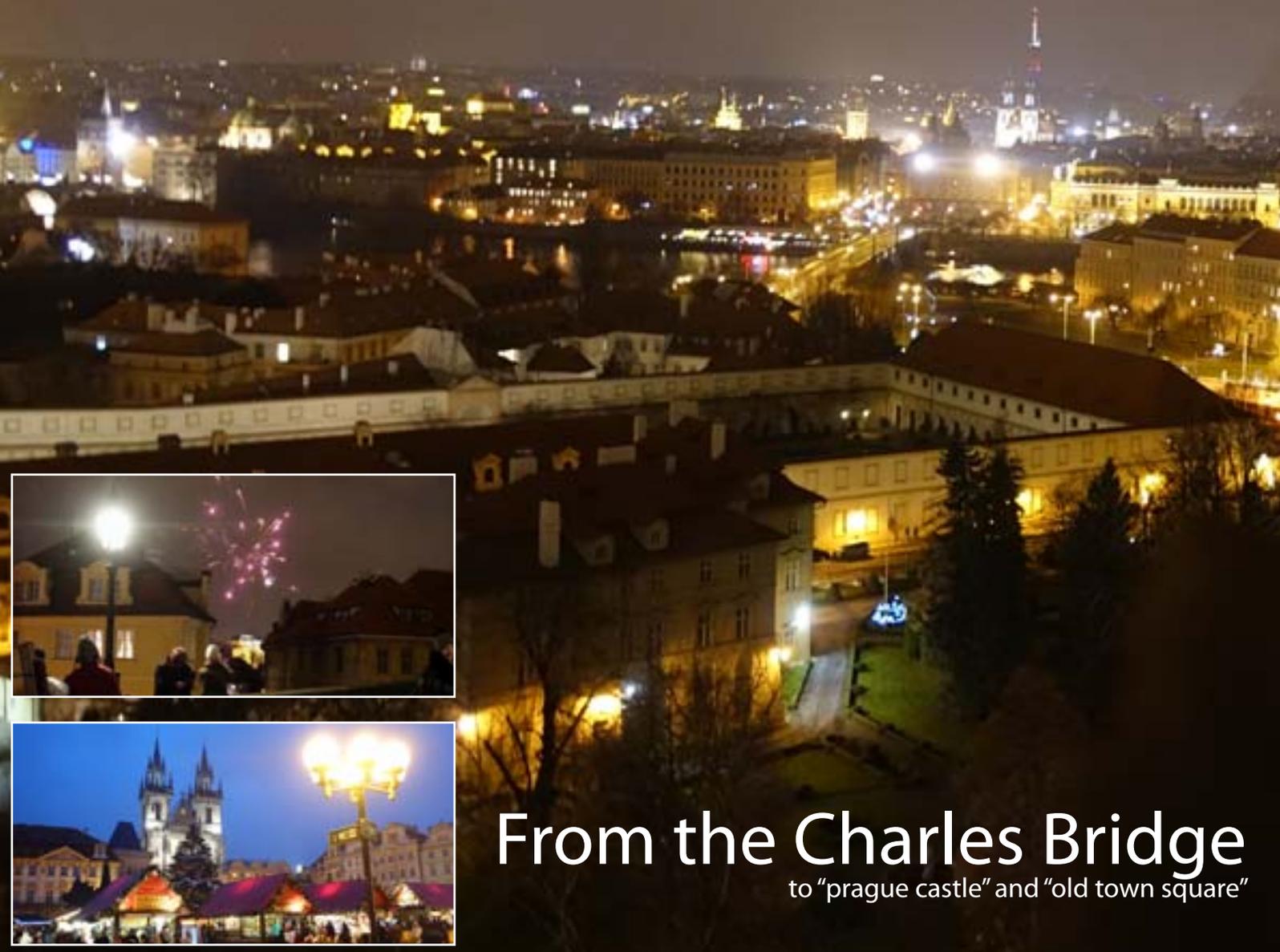
Prague at night

Walking through Prague after dusk

in winter

+

EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS

Long Exposure

From the Charles Bridge

to "prague castle" and "old town square"

CONTENTS

PRAGUE AT NIGHT

"EXPLORE THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF PRAGUE AT NIGHT AS YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE".

During the thousand years of its existence, the city grew from a settlement stretching from Prague Castle in the north to the fort of Vyšehrad in the south, becoming the multicultural capital of a modern European state, the Czech Republic, a member state of the European Union.

"I LIVE IN PRAHA FOR OVER 20 YEARS NOW, BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN THE BUILDINGS AND PLACES LIKE THIS BEFORE". Native, Praha

Prague is the capital and largest city of the Czech Republic. It is the 14th largest city in the European Union.

Situated in the north-west of the country on the Vltava River, the city is home to about 1.24 million people, while its larger urban zone is estimated to have a population of nearly 2 million.

Prague has been a political, cultural, and economic centre of central Europe with waxing and waning fortunes during its 1,100-year existence.

Prague is home to a number of famous cultural attractions, many of which survived the violence and destruction of 20th-century Europe. Main attractions include the Prague Castle, the Charles Bridge, Old Town Square with the Prague astronomical clock, the Jewish Quarter, Petřín hill and Vyšehrad. Since 1992, the extensive historic centre of Prague has been included in the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites.

Its rich history makes it a popular tourist destination, and the city receives more than 4.4 million international visitors annually, as of 2011. Prague ranked fifth in the Tripadvisor world list of best destinations in 2014. Prague is the fifth most visited European city after London, Paris, Istanbul and Rome.

Prague, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Prague&oldid=698500452 (last visited Jan. 10, 2016).

CHARLES BRIDGE

THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY, THE CHARLES BRIDGE SUFFERED SEVERAL DISASTERS AND WITNESSED MANY HISTORIC EVENTS. CZECH LEGEND HAS IT THAT CONSTRUCTION BEGAN ON CHARLES BRIDGE AT 5:31AM ON 9 JULY 1357 WITH THE FIRST STONE BEING LAID BY CHARLES IV HIMSELF.

The Charles Bridge (Czech: Karlův most) is a famous historic bridge that crosses the Vltava river in Prague, Czech Republic.

Its construction started in 1357 under the auspices of King Charles IV, and finished in the beginning of the 15th century.

The bridge replaced the old Judith Bridge built 1158–1172 that had been badly damaged by a flood in 1342.

This new bridge was originally called the Stone Bridge (Kamenný most) or the Prague Bridge (Pražský most) but has been the "Charles Bridge" since 1870.

As the only means of crossing the river Vltava (Moldau) until 1841, the Charles Bridge was the most important connection between Prague Castle and the city's Old Town and adjacent areas.

This "solid-land" connection made Prague important as a trade route between Eastern and Western Europe.

The bridge is 621 metres (2,037 ft) long and nearly 10 metres (33 ft) wide, resting on 16 arches shielded by ice guards.

It is protected by three bridge towers, two of them on the Lesser Quarter side and the third one on the Old Town side.
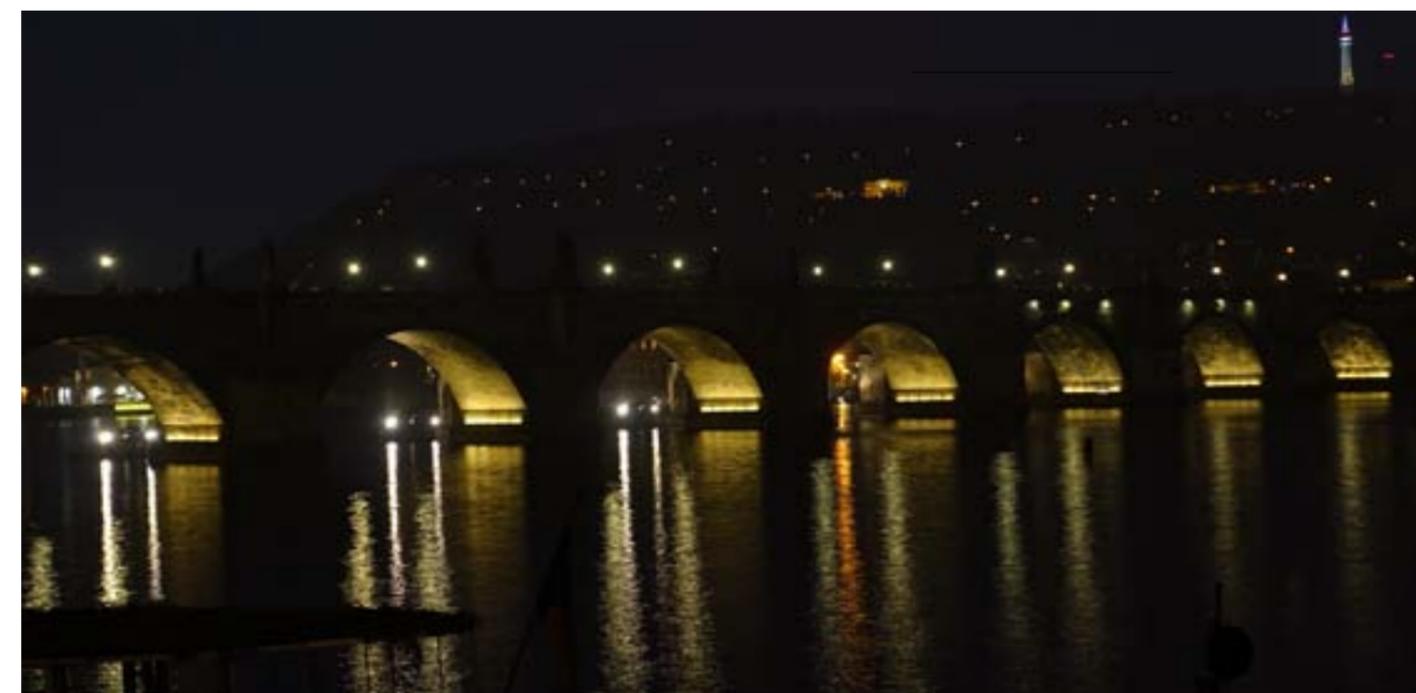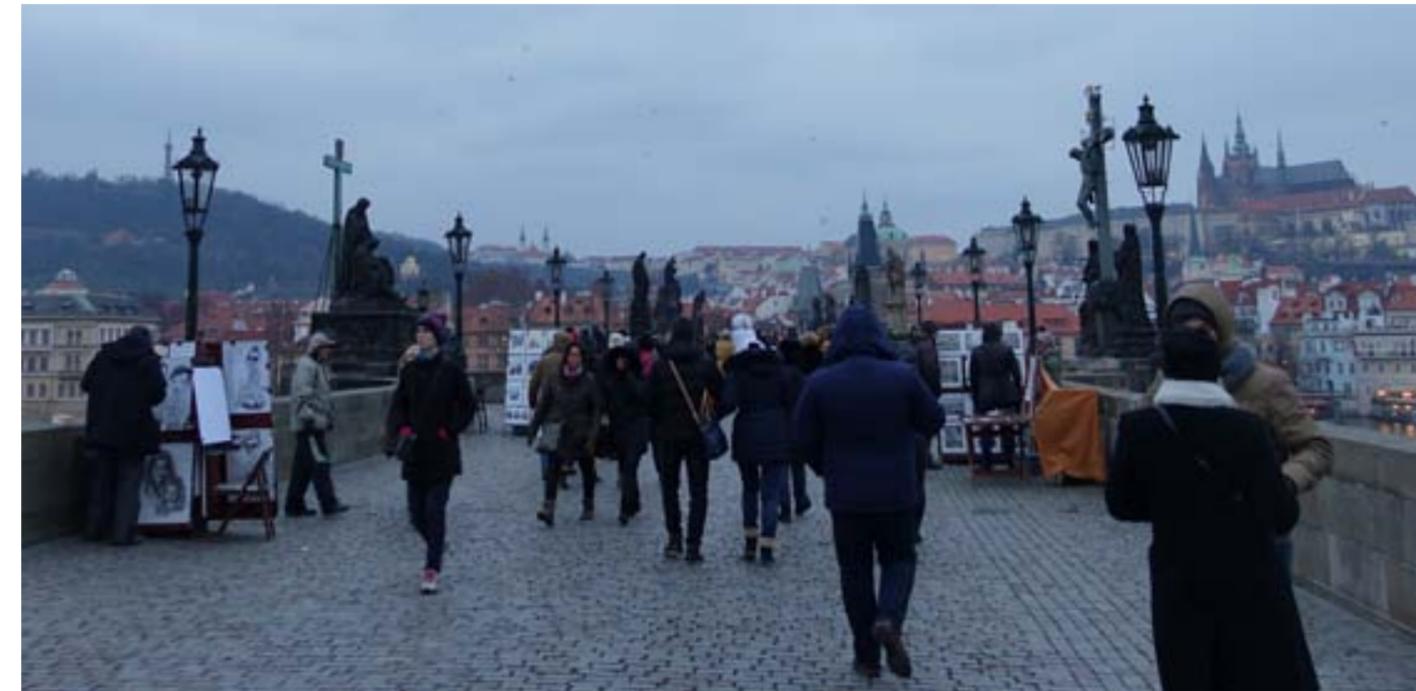
The Old Town bridge tower is often considered to be one of the most astonishing civil gothic-style buildings in the world.

The bridge is decorated by a continuous alley of 30 statues and statuaries, most of them baroque-style, originally erected around 1700 but now all replaced by replicas.

The avenue of 30 mostly baroque statues and statuaries situated on the balustrade forms a unique connection of artistic styles with the underlying gothic bridge.

Most sculptures were erected between 1683 and 1714.

They depict various saints and patron saints venerated at that time.

The most prominent Bohemian sculptors of the time took part in decorating the bridge, such as Matthias Braun, Jan Brokoff, and his sons Michael Joseph and Ferdinand Maxmilian.

Charles Bridge, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Charles_Bridge&oldid=688216748 (last visited Jan. 10, 2016).

OLD TOWN SQUARE

OLD TOWN SQUARE IS A HISTORIC SQUARE IN THE OLD TOWN QUARTER OF PRAGUE, THE CAPITAL OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC. IT IS LOCATED BETWEEN WENCESLAS SQUARE AND THE CHARLES BRIDGE.

PHOTOS BY TERRAGON

>> At Christmas and Easter, markets are held on the square; they resemble medieval markets.

The Christmas Markets on the Old Town Square are the largest Christmas markets in the Czech Republic and are visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors from the Czech Republic and abroad.

A tall decorated tree and a musical stage are set up. The markets are mostly visited by Germans, Russians, Italians and British.

The square features various architectural styles including the Gothic Church of Our Lady before Týn, which has been the main church of this part of the city since the 14th century; the church's towers are 80 m high.

Old Town Square, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Old_Town_Square&oldid=683668499 (last visited Jan. 10, 2016).

BY TERRAGON-PHOTOGRAPHY
DATING FROM THE 9TH CENTURY AND THE
OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENT OF
THE CZECH REPUBLIC.

PRAGUE CASTLE

ACCORDING TO THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RE-
CORDS, PRAGUE CASTLE IS THE LARGEST AN-
CIENT CASTLE IN THE WORLD,[1] OCCUPYING
AN AREA OF ALMOST 70,000 M2, AT ABOUT
570 METERS IN LENGTH AND AN AVERAGE OF
ABOUT 130 METERS WIDE.

PHOTOS BY TERRAGON
STAIRWAYS TO PRAGUE CASTLE.

The history of the castle stretches back to the year 870 with the construction of its first walled building, the Church of the Virgin Mary.

The Basilica of Saint George and the Basilica of St. Vitus were founded under the reign of Vratislav and his son St. Wenceslas in the first half of the 10th century.

During the Hussite Wars and the following decades, the castle was not inhabited. In 1485, King Ladislaus II Jagello began to rebuild the castle.

The massive Vladislav Hall (built by Benedikt Rejt) was added to the Royal Palace. New defence towers were also built on the north side of the castle.

The last major rebuilding of the castle was carried out by Empress Maria Theresa in the second half of the 18th century. Following his abdication in 1848, and the succession of his nephew, Franz Joseph, to the throne, the former emperor, Ferdinand I, made Prague Castle his home.

The castle buildings represent virtually every architectural style of the last millennium.

Prague Castle includes Gothic St Vitus Cathedral, Romanesque Basilica of St. George, a monastery and several palaces, gardens and defense towers. Most of the castle areas are open to tourists.

Nowadays, the castle houses several museums, including the National Gallery collection of Bohemian baroque and mannerism art, exhibition dedicated to Czech history, Toy Museum and the picture gallery of Prague Castle, based on the collection of Rudolph II.

The Summer Shakespeare Festival regularly takes place in the courtyard of Burgrave Palace.

Prague Castle, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Prague_Castle&oldid=699037077 (last visited Jan. 10, 2016).

STREETS

IMPRESSIONS

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