

CZECH TOURISM SHOWS POSITIVE RESULTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER



Number of guests staying in quality Czech hotels increased in the third quarter of 2010. Most of them were Germans but there were Russian, Americans and French too. On the other hand, number of tourists coming to camps decreased during this period.

Tourism industry in the Czech Republic recorded a rise in the third quarter of the year 2010. **In comparison to the last year, the number of visitors staying in Czech hotels increased by 0.7 per cent to 14.1 million.** According to the Czech Statistical Office, the most significant rise in the number of guests was recorded in the highest category of hotels. Five star hotels welcomed 17.4 per cent more guests and four star hotels 10.9 per cent more guests. The most popular were traditionally hotels in Prague.

As online magazine Ceskenoviny.cz reported, most visitors came from Germany even though there was a 4.9 per cent fewer of them coming to the country when compared to the numbers in the previous year. On the other hand, **there was an increase in number of visitors coming from Russia (36.6), the USA (15.6 per cent) and from France (12.1 per cent).** Five star hotels recorded the highest occupancy rate (64.1) and were followed by 61.3 per cent occupancy rate in four star hotels.

Camps and similar venues on the other hand suffered a decline in the number of visitors during the third quarter of the year, mainly because of cold weather and frequent floods that hit the Czech Republic in the summer. In all, camps have recorded a 9.1 per cent decline in number of visitors.

According to KPMG, an advisory firm, the higher occupancy rates in four and five star hotels were reached at the expense of lower prices. In general, **63 per cent of guests were tourists** and in Prague the number was even higher, 80 per cent. Almost half of the stays were organized by travel agencies and more than 15 per cent of bookings were done via the Internet.

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