Your next congress venue?

Institute of Physical Biology
University of South Bohemia
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Czech Republic
We introduce ourselves...

The Academic and University Center in Nové Hrady is formed by the Institute of Physical Biology (IPB) and the Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic (ILE).

The Institute of Physical Biology is a newly established research institute of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. The institute is attractively located in the Buquoy chateau in Nové Hrady, a historical town situated at the Czech-Austrian border and now the smallest university town in the Czech Republic.

Research at the IPB covers the range from computer biochemistry, through protein structure analysis by NMR, X-ray and electron microscopy and optical imaging techniques on the scale from the sub-organellar through cellular up to whole leaf and canopy. These technologies form basis for wide range of applications in ecology, oceanography, biotechnology, pharmacology, biomedicine, agriculture and forestry. The research collaboration of the institute is geographically diverse and ranges from neighbouring Austria and Germany, through Sweden, Holland and France up to United States of America and Australia. Pioneering private Hi-tech companies establish themselves in the IPB infrastructure. Research and applied infrastructure are to be complemented by building of the Nové Hrady Biotechnology center sponsored by PHARE CBC project in 2004.

The foundation of the institute in April 2002 was a logical consequence of the award of the national research center „Mechanism, ecophysiology and biotechnology of photosynthesis“ to a consortium of the University of South Bohemia with several institutes of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic, namely the Institute of Plant Molecular Biology, the Institute of Microbiology, the Institute of Landscape Ecology and Ostrava University.

The Laboratory of Applied Photobiology & Bio-Imaging of ILE concentrates on developing new techniques and instruments for non-invasive monitoring of photosynthetic activities in plant cells, individual plants and in plant canopy. The newly developed techniques are used to investigate heterogeneity of the plant photosynthesis from a microscale up to the canopy level. The research is aimed at applications and spin-off activities in precision farming, mutant screening and in environmental protection.

As a result, the Academic and University Center and the town of Nové Hrady is on the way to become a meeting point of universities, academy of science and contemporary biotechnology with little comparison in the whole country.
Research Impressions
The New Chateau - an Empire building by the architect Werschafeld from 1802-1810. It was the residence of the Buquoy family until 1946. During the civil war in Greece, greek children lived here for a short time, and then an agricultural school was established. In the restored chateau we can find representative rooms as the mirror hall and the blue hall in the shape of the general’s field tent from the Thirty Years’War that nowadays serve for conference purposes. One famous owner was Jiří, Count Buquoy, humanist and inventor of world renown. Today the the Academic and University Center Nové Hrady is housed here. The object is not open to the public.
Chateau Park

The Chateau park dates from 1593. Major repairs were conducted in the years 1715 and 1810. Now they are continuing. Around the romantic lily-pad lake with island (dance floor) we pass along the Dlouha alej (the Long Avenue) to tennis courts. A peasant village from the 19th century has survived to the present, just like other fairy tale buildings in this park.
The congress venue

The mirror hall – a high-end computer lecture hall with representative noble atmosphere

The computer lab

The theatre – our largest convention hall

The small conference room
Social Events

The chateau park – the ideal location for your barbecue

The blue hall
– a quiet and romantic Jazz evening or would you prefer a dance?

The representative rooms – a perfect scenery for your welcome party
Welcome to Nové Hrady

The origins of Nové Hrady date back to the 13th century when a settlement sprang up near a sentry castle along a trail from Austria to Bohemia. In 1359 the town became the property of the Rožmberk (Rosenberg) family and remained in its possession up to the beginning of the 17th century. It was destroyed by fire during the Hussite wars and badly damaged in the Thirty Years’ War. A new chapter in its history opened in 1620 when the Nove Hrady estate passed into the hands of the Buquoy family who continued to own it until 1945. The construction of the railway in 1869, that later connected Plzeň (Pilsen) and Vienna, contributed significantly to the economy of the town.

Nové Hrady is the natural center of the area formed by the Novohradské mountains, whose highest peaks reach an elevation of more than 1,000 metres above sea level. It is a region of deep forests with relatively preserved nature and the oldest natural virgin reservations in the Czech republic and in Central Europe.

The visitor to Nové Hrady will find many historical monuments. One of the chief attractions is the castle that was built around the middle of the 13th century and further rebuilt between 1792 and 1798. In the city square one can see the 16th century city hall with the Buquoy coat-of-arms and the town crest on its façade, and the former lord’s residence built in early Baroque style in 1634 -1635. East of the square one will find the Servite monastery (1679 -1685) and the Church of St. Peter and Paul, founded in 1284. The interior furnishings of this one-nave church are from the second half of the 17th century. The pseudo-Gothic tomb of the Buquoy family is located at the Nove Hrady cemetery.
Another point of interest is Theresa’s Valley (Terezino údolí), a beautiful park with many rare and exotic wood species. The park was developed in the second half of the 18th century by John Buquoy who named it after his wife Theresa. She had a small private spa built in the middle of the park in the years 1788 to 1797.

Later, an artificial waterfall (1817) and a Swiss chalet (1852) were added.

At the far end of the valley, towards Horní Stropnice, stands fort Cuknštejn (1488 - 1491) that has remained virtually unchanged to this day.
Social Program

Český Krumlov, the jewel of medieval architecture. This castle city in the South-east of the Czech Republic has preserved its medieval center as no other town in the region. For this reason it entered the UNESCO register of monuments of world significance in 1992. About 30 min from Nové Hrady by car it is a perfect opportunity for a day trip that can be organized by us.

Budweiser Budvar, as a typical Budweiser beer, characterised by its delicate and agreeable taste with a hint of malt, a pleasant aroma of hops and bitterness recorded its first success already in the second year of its existence. In 1896 it received an award at the Industrial and Pharmaceutical Exhibition in Prague. There is the possibility of visiting Budweiser Budvar Brewery in České Budějovice.
Accommodation

Congress participants can be accommodated in 6 different locations:

**The Buquoy Chateau**

The congress venue. The Chateau has a number of apartments and single or double rooms. Another wing of the Chateau has simpler student dormitories.

**The Monastery**

The Monastery is close to the Chateau. It is here that meals are served during the congress.

**Pension Udoli**

Recently completed well-restored pension with rooms with full facilities. The pension is located below the historic town center.

**Pension Ferenčiková**

The top floor of this town house has been rebuild into a 3-bedroom apartment with small kitchen and well-equipped bathroom. Located in one of the small streets between the historic town center and the medieval castle.

**Pension Hamr**

Nicely situated in the Theresa's Valley, part of the old Chateau parks. Located out of town, a quiet place in natural environment.

**Pension Hommer**

A small pension close to the historic castle (no pictures available).

*There will be a shuttle service for those location that are more then a short walk away from the Chateau.
How to reach us …

Nové Hrady lies close to geographic center linking the academic centers Linz, Hagenberg, České Budějovice and Třeboň to technological parks in Freistadt and České Velenice - Gmünd. It lies on the border between Austria and the Czech republic, a 1 h 30 min drive from the international Blue Danube Airport in Linz or a less than 2 hours drive from Vienna’s international airport in Schwechat. A shuttle service can be organized from the airport to the congress venue. The town can also be reached easily by train via České Budějovice or by bus from Prague.

The town is full of historical monuments which include a castle, two chateaus, monastery and many other. It lies in the middle of most intact nature in Central Europe, surrounded by hills but still having relatively mild climate. It is meeting point of trekkers and mountain bikers in the summer and cross-country skiers in the winter. For those who are not satisfied, the Alps are within 2 hours drive.

For further information please contact us:
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