

## PRAGUE CASTLE AND PLEČNIK GARDEN

**Wednesday 25 August 2021**  
**13.00 — 17.00**



In 1920, Tomas Masaryk, the first president of the Republic of Czechoslovakia, asked Josip Plečnik to restore the Prague Castle as a new symbol of independence and democracy. From 1920 to 1934, Plečnik completed various projects around the castle, including a series of presidential apartments with an oval lift within a vaulted brick cylinder, and new state rooms with a triple storey columned hall. He also transformed the exterior spaces for the benefit of the public, repaved courtyards, articulated them by new monuments and, above all, he transformed the old ramparts overlooking the city into a paradise garden, enhanced by stairs, a fountain, columns, gazebos, massive urns and small pyramids. We will enjoy a slow and beautiful walk through Plečnik's three courtyards – First, Third and Fourth Courtyard – and three Gardens – Paradise Garden, Garden on the Bastion and the Garden on the Ramparts – of the Castle, enjoying a whimsical view of the whole city of Prague

### MEETING POINT

Obelisk at Prague Castle, next to St. Vitus Cathedral

3<sup>rd</sup> Courtyard of Prague Castle, 119 00 Praha 1 – Hradčany

Please note: You will need to go through the security metal detectors of the Prague Castle.

Please count with approximately 15 min. reserve for the queue.

[GPS — 50.0902528 N, 14.4000725 E]

### YOUR GUIDE

Zdeněk Lukeš — Historian of architecture  
Petra Vlachynská — Ph.D. student FA CTU

### CONTACT PERSON

Petra Vlachynská  
+420 777 242 475  
p.vlachynska@email.cz

Your guide **Zdeněk Lukeš** is an architect and historian of architecture who was actively involved in the 1989 Velvet Revolution and worked several years in the Office of the President of the Czech Republic revitalizing Prague Castle during Vaclav Havel's presidency. Zdeněk Lukeš is the author and co-author of several books on modern architecture history of Prague and has written hundreds of expert articles. He contributed to broadcasts for Czech Television, as well as to Czech Public Radio and BBC. Between 2000–2003, he was the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture of the Technical University in Liberec. Since 2004, he has been teaching at the New York University in Prague.