

Brno, 29 February 2012

World famous Tugendhat Villa opens to public after two years of restoration work

On Tuesday, 6 March 2012, the Tugendhat Villa will re-open to the public following major restoration. This famous villa located in the district of Černá Pole will be operated as an installed landmark of modern architecture and will thus become one of the world-famous villas and significant private detached houses that are open to visitors in a similar fashion. After all, this is how it was operated as early as 1994 when it started being managed by the Museum of the City of Brno. Besides other things, this modern architecture landmark will offer new guided tours, electronic booking system, shop selling professional literature and the facilities of a study room of the Study and Documentation Centre at the villa.

„The Tugendhat Villa is an icon of modern architecture and although it was completed more than eighty years ago, it is still fascinating. The visitors may experience an impressive symbiosis of the living space of the villa and the surrounding nature, and get to understand the ideas the architect and the original house owners had about freedom, which was so important for them,“ said **Mayor of Brno, Mr. Roman Onderka**.

The Tugendhat Villa was the very first landmark of this type in the Czech Republic which was opened to the public. In years directly preceding its restoration, it was visited by approximately 20 thousand people a year, with almost half of them coming from abroad. Later on, other villas in the CR were opened to the public, the best known being the Müller Villa in Prague by architect Adolf Loos and the recently opened villa designed and owned by architect Dušan Jurkovič in Brno.

Basic information about the tour

The Tugendhat Villa will be open to the public from Tuesday to Sunday (Monday – closed). Tours will take place at every full hour between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in groups of a maximum number of 15 people with a guide. The first tour will take place at 10 a.m., the last at 5 p.m. Following a previous booking, it is possible to book a tour in English, German, Italian, Spanish and Russian and potentially in other languages, too.

Tours

The modern architecture landmark, listed as a UNESCO cultural and natural heritage site since 2001, will offer several tours to its visitors. **Standard tour** will guide the visitors through the residential rooms of the villa and include a visit to the bedroom floor, the main living room, scullery, kitchen and garden. **Technical tour** will broaden the standard tour by the technical facilities of the villa, including a visit to the air conditioning engine room, engine room for electric window retractable system, laundry, photo chamber and fur coat strong room.

Weather allowing, the cash desk will sell time unlimited **admission for the garden only** on open days.

Admission fee price list

Standard tour – full admission fee of CZK 300, reduced admission fee (pupils, students, elderly people, disabled people with disability cards) of CZK 180. Family admission fee of CZK 690 covers 2 adults and 1–2 children up to 15 years of age.

Visitors interested in the technical tour will pay admission fee of CZK 350, reduced admission fee is CZK 210, family admission fee totals CZK 805.

The time unlimited uniform admission to the garden is CZK 50 per visitor.

Electronic booking system

Each tour must be booked in advance at www.tugendhat.eu.

Professional literature and souvenir shop

The visitors will be offered publications covering specifically the period between the two world wars and souvenirs. For example, the publications „O nové Brno. Brněnská architektura 1919–1939“ (*For New Brno. Brno Architecture 1919-1939*) and „Kultura stavění v Brně na počátku 20. století“ (*Building Culture in Brno at the beginning of the 20th century*) will be on offer. Guided tours through the Tugendhat Villa in Czech, English and German versions will be provided. The visitors can buy souvenirs - puzzles, commemorative coins, postcards or tourist stamps with the Tugendhat Villa motif.

Study and Documentation Centre

Besides the scientific research activities focusing on the Tugendhat Villa and the Brno architecture of the 19th and 20th century, the Study and Documentation Centre plans to “enliven” this famous house with lectures presented by domestic and international experts. The lectures will focus on modern architecture as well as culture, preservation of classic modern style landmarks etc. in the Czech Republic as well as abroad. Educational programmes for children and youth from nurseries up to secondary schools are being prepared.

PhDr. Soňa Haluzová
Brno City Hall Press Centre
e-mail: tis@brno.cz
phone: 542 172 026
fax: 542 172 124
www.brno.cz

The press service at www.brno.cz provides topical press releases, plan of events, photo gallery, audio media (mp3 formats) and downloadable files.

