## Contents

FOREWORD	6
SEAT OF PRINCES AND KINGS (883-1354)	7
The Magyar Challenge	9
Patron Saints Vitus and Wenceslas	11
Bishop Vojtěch Adalbert	13
The First Czech King	16
Prague Has a Castle	18
The Convent of St George	20
The Crown and the Menorah	22
Abbesses Agnes and Cunigund	24
Rise and Decline of Czech Power	26
The Last Přemyslid Kings	28
King John of Bohemia	30
The Royal Palace	32
A French Cathedral for Prague	34
The St Wenceslas Crown	36
Medieval Metropolis (1346–1400)	37
A Passion for Sacred Relics	38
Peter Parler	42
The Chapel of StWenceslas	44
Parlerian Sculpture	46
The Last Judgment Mosaic	48
The King of Czechs and Germans	50
Towards Reform (1401–1470)	52
The Hussite Warriors	54
The Court Returns to the Castle	56
Ried's Grand Throne Hall	58
THE HABSBURGS TAKE POWER (1526–1617)	60
The Ubiquitous Renaissance	65
Rudolf II and his Artists	68
Astronomers and Occultists	72
The Splendour of the Court	74
The Castle Slums	76
Trade at the Castle	78
Rudolf's Fatal Gamble	80
THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR (1618-1648)	82
The Winter King	84
Black Day at White Mountain	86
Ruthless Retribution	88
A Marvel of Northern Renaissance	90
The Peace of Prague	92
The World's Worst Art Robbery	94

A ROYAL CAPITAL (1649-1918)	96	Buying Peace	174
Baroque at the Castle	98	The Aftermath of Munich	176
Night at the Opera	102	The Second Republic	178
The Cult of St John of Nepomuk	104	The Minorities of Yesterday	179
The War of Austrian Succession	106		
Switching Allegiance	108	OCCUPATION, WAR AND LIBERATION	
A Plot to Split the Kingdom	110	(1939 - 1948)	180
A Home for Ladies in Need	111	Hitler at the Castle	182
Daun Saves Prague	112	The Fascist and the Patriot	184
A Palace for the Habsburgs	114	"National Alliance"	185
The Enlightened Despot	118	The Protector and the President	186
Mozart's Coronation Flop	120	Windfall for the Reich	187
The Prague Summit	121	Soldiers at Prague Castle and Abroad	188
Asylum for Charles X of France	122	Heydrich's Harsh Régime	190
Coronation of a Kindly Simpleton	124	Assassination and Reprisals	192
The Revolt that Failed	126	Heydrich's Successor	194
The Teenage Autocrat	128	Czechoslovaks in Russia	196
Ferdinand's Happy Retirement	129	British Plan for the Third Reich	197
Prussians at the Castle	130	Struggle to Avert Defeat	198
An Unfinished Cathedral	131	Uprising and Liberation	200
The Prince and the Cardinal	132	President Beneš Takes Charge	202
Architect Josef Mocker	134	Expropriation, Expulsion and Transfer	204
Archduke Franz Ferdinand	136	Postwar Elections	205
Fighting over Language Rules	138	The February Crisis	206
Serenading the Emperor	140		-
Archduke Charles	142	IN SOVIET EMBRACE (1948 - 1989)	210
The Trip to Sarajevo	143	Arms for the Haganah	212
Czech Leaders in Wartime	144	The Party Comes to the Castle	213
Masaryk's Project	146	The People's Enemies	214
Kafka at the Castle	148	The People's Leaders	215
Czechoslovak Legion	150	Traitors in High Places	216
Carrionnan region	100	After Stalin and Gottwald	218
CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC (1918 - 1939)	152	The State Calls Itself Socialist	220
German Austria	154	Prague Spring	222
Slovakia Invaded	155	Invaded by Five Allies	225
The Nation's Pride	156	Turning the Clock Back	228
President Masaryk Re-elected	158	Charter 77 and Anticharter	230
	159	Soviet Satellite For Ever?	232
Transforming the Castle The First Nazis	160	Mounting Discontent	234
The Germans in Government	162	Exit of the Normalisers	238
	163	Exit of the ivormansers	200
The Cathedral Completed A New Look for the Castle	165	LIBERTY AND BREAKUP (1989 - 2003)	239
	166		240
The Quest for Security		Czech Republic Is Born	
The Peace Treaty Challenged	168	Foreign Relations	242
Beneš Elected President	170	A Cause for Celebration	243
The Rise of Konrad Henlein	171	Havel's Farewell	244
The Loss of Masaryk	172 173	Selected Bibliography	245
The British Go-Between	100	Index & List of Abbreviations	2.44