

Vienna, Intl.



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Heartbeat, Grätzel, Mr. Universe, kosher, Bahö, Poldi,
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VIENNA
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Dear reader,

Vienna is big. A genuine world capital. At the end of September 2023 the city crossed the threshold of two million inhabitants – making it as big as it was in 1910, when Vienna was the fifth largest city in the world. Today, it is the fifth largest in the EU. But what would Vienna be without the Grätzel that make the city a major urban center in the first place? You're probably asking yourself at this point what a Grätzel is. Well it's the term we use for a local neighborhood. And there are a lot of them in Vienna. Each district comprises several such neighborhoods, which were created from former settlements outside the city center. They usually have a main square or market surrounded by a wide variety of cafés, bars and restaurants, as well as stores and art initiatives. They're not always polished to a shine, and you won't find all of them in the classic travel guides. But they are also an integral part of the city. And places where real life plays out. We like to think of Vienna's Grätzel as our Heartbeat Streets – the title we have chosen as our theme for 2024.

We're putting the spotlight on these thriving microcosms outside the well-known touristic center. And they could scarcely be more different from one another. Each one has its own specific character and charm. In this issue of Vienna, Intl. we present, among other things, the Karmeliterviertel in the second district. It is here that a large part of Jewish life in Vienna takes place. And at its heart is a bustling market: the Karmelitermarkt. Another of our stories focuses on the Gusshausviertel in the fourth district. Just on its edge, the highlight of this particular local neighborhood is the Wien Museum, which opened on December 6, 2023 with its fantastic collection – a major cultural driver for this part of the city. Right next door: the baroque Karlskirche church. These very different architectural hotspots are framed by venerable old apartment buildings and fantastic bars and restaurants. Just around the corner is the Freihausviertel, home to the Third Man Museum. The spy thriller that it is named for is one of the best films of all time. And the city is still a spy capital today, as another of the stories in this issue of Vienna, Intl. proves.

Restaurants are an essential component of a Viennese Grätzel. After all, food is – excuse the pun – always on the menu. Especially in Vienna. The

capital's restaurants are cast in the starring role of our new video series "Hungry for More": Accompanied by star chef Lukas Mraz, we take a look behind the scenes at a range of eateries in the capital and share the best insider tips when it comes to Viennese cuisine. Viennese street food is in a class of its own, and we're not just talking about its sausage stands here. And we present the city's best drinks to go with it.

A very special part of Vienna is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2024: the Zentralfriedhof, or Central Cemetery. That is why we're dedicating a story to the Cemetery of the Stars. 2024 brings the same milestone, only this time applying to the birth of Arnold Schoenberg – the inventor of twelve-tone music, who is also profiled in this issue of Vienna, Intl. There is also a story about iconic design from the 1850s to the present day, and interviews with fascinating personalities from the city. And we look down on Vienna from above.

Once again, Vienna, Intl. has it black on white: Vienna's colorful diversity is truly unique.

I wish you an enjoyable read and a great time planning your trip to Vienna! You are coming, aren't you?

With best regards,



NORBERT KETTNER

Managing Director, Vienna Tourist Board

PS: You can find insights into many other Viennese neighborhoods such as the multicultural Yppenplatz with the legendary Brunnenmarkt, the Stuwerviertel near the Prater and Seestadt Aspern, a neighborhood of the future, on our website heartbeat.vienna.info.





Urban Life

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Watch Out, Spies About!

A hotbed for secret services and intelligence agencies, Vienna's espionage credentials go beyond silver-screen classic *The Third Man*. We set off in search of answers.



Ten Questions for *Mr. Universe Daniel*

(Interview)
Tobias SCHREIBER

(Photo)
Lisa EDI

On November 5, 2022, Viennese bodybuilder Daniel Glamm was crowned Mr. Universe, following in the footsteps of Arnold Schwarzenegger. His day job is with the Wiener Linien public transportation authority – once a bus mechanic, he now works as a shift supervisor. This probably makes his depot the strongest in Vienna.

Glamm

① **What is your favorite form of public transportation?**

The bus, of course! When I ride the bus, I feel like I'm at home.

② **Can you move any kind of public transportation using your muscle power alone?**

I've never actually tried. But I think I'm going to have to say "no" to that question.

③ **Bodybuilder vs. shift supervisor: what are the different requirements?**

My professional life is all about mental effort. But I can completely switch off when I'm doing sports. This creates a good balance.

④ **How do you prepare for competitions?**

Throughout the year, I build up as much muscle mass as possible and work on improving any areas of weakness. And approximately twelve to 16 weeks before the competition I reduce my calorie intake and increase activity to help me lose every last gram of body fat.

⑤ **You are quoted as saying "this sport is an illusion". But what exactly do you mean by that?**

Well, it's not always the person with the greatest muscle mass that wins. If someone has better proportions but is a little lighter, they can still look more sculpted and win.

⑥ **What is your training goal – strength or aesthetics?**

In bodybuilding, it's all about the look. But it is a myth that bodybuilders are just "puffed up". The way I see it – only hardcore training creates a hardcore physique.

⑦ **Fake tan instead of engine oil: why do bodybuilders use tanning cream?**

This makes the contours easier to see under the bright stage lights.

⑧ **You have a strict nutritional plan, and avoid alcohol, sugar and wheat. But is there a Viennese delicacy you just can't resist?**

I love to eat Kaiserschmarrn – shredded pancakes – but I'm still able to resist the temptation. You've just got to have that discipline when you're preparing for competition.

⑨ **What do you like to do most in your free time in Vienna?**

I like to walk along Prater Hauptallee, visit friends and family, go shopping or take a stroll around the first district.

⑩ **What makes Vienna unique for you?**

Its sheer variety. The outskirts are all about rural charm and tranquility. And then, just a few kilometers away, you have Vienna's beautiful city center with its old buildings and horse-drawn carriages.

Between Cool AND KOSHER

(Text)

Susanne KAPELLER

(Photos)

Erli GRÜNZWEIL

Anyone who makes a foray into Vienna's Karmeliterviertel will find themselves in the midst of a relaxed neighborhood whose Jewish history can still be felt today. This authentic part of the city certainly hasn't had the character polished out of it. A great bar and restaurant scene has sprung up around the Karmelitermarkt market, which is the beating heart of the Karmeliterviertel.



The Danube Canal separates two worlds. On one side is Vienna's bustling first district with its chic shopping streets. And on the other is Leopoldstadt – Vienna's second district – including the Jewish-influenced Karmeliterviertel neighborhood. It's only a short walk from Schwedenplatz. As soon as I cross the Danube Canal and leave the first district behind me, there is a clear shift in the look and feel of the city. All of Vienna's neighborhoods have their own distinctive identities, and the same goes for the Karmeliterviertel.

Center of Jewish Life

At the start of Taborstrasse, I am greeted by two high-rise buildings – like a gateway. Beyond is the Karmeliterviertel, a mixture of municipal apartment buildings and late-19th-century Gründerzeit houses, some with fancy rooftop conversions. The center of Jewish life in Vienna, the Karmeliterviertel has numerous kosher stores, restaurants, bakeries, and butcher shops, as well as schools and religious institutions. This had also been the case in the past: until the Holocaust, a large part of Vienna's Jewish population lived in the second district, which earned this part of town the nickname of “Mazzes Island” (in reference to matzah, or mazzah, an unleavened bread eaten at Passover).



Taborstrasse is a bustling shopping street, away from all the glitz and glamour of the first district. One famous fixture is the Faschingsprinz store, with its fancy dress and party costumes. In the run-up to Halloween (nowadays more people dress up for Halloween than they do for the Austrian carnival season, Fasching), long queues form outside. I continue my walk along Taborstrasse, where it is clear that the neighborhood is still very much the center of Jewish life. There are kosher stores as well as restaurants, such as Bahur Tov, while across the street is the Chabad House – a center for the Jewish community.

Cultural Diversity

On Lilienbrunnengasse, a side street running parallel to Taborstrasse, I walk past Orthodox Jews, dressed in their typical black coats and tall hats, with long beards and sidelocks. Some are picking up their children from the Jewish school, while others are on their way to shop at the kosher bakery on Lilienbrunnengasse, or one of the other kosher stores nearby. Young, contemporary Jewish life is also evident in the neighborhood.

I stroll towards Karmeliterplatz and the pretty Karmeliterkirche church. Here, a few nuns from the neighboring convent are sitting in the shade beneath the trees. It's not just the coexistence of different religions and communities, but also the restaurants on the square that show just how diverse this neighborhood is: Café-Bistrot Harvest serves vegan cuisine, Kulturcafé Tachles is known for its Polish specialties, while Schank zum Reichsapfel is a classic Stadtheuriger or city wine tavern. And in between them Weinbar Vinifero's stock in trade is natural wines. But whatever the focus, all of these places have one thing in common: attractive outdoor seating.

Dinner and Crime

Anyone looking for a museum that breaks the mold should head for the Crime Museum, which is located in one of the district's oldest buildings – the Seifensiederhaus. The museum focuses on notorious Viennese criminal cases, from murder by poisoning committed in a fit of jealousy, and the attempt on Emperor Franz Joseph's life, to the infamous serial killer Jack Unterweger. It's definitely not for the faint-hearted, but true crime fans will be in their

element here. Even without actually going into the museum, it is well worth taking a look at this 17th-century gem, with its idyllic elevated galleries that lead to the individual apartments.

Next, I head towards Karmelitermarkt via Karmelitergasse, passing Katscheli (a cozy café-bar) and a Grätzlhotel neighborhood hotel along the way. Ideal for those who want to spend the night right in the heart of the local neighborhood, and experience the essence of the district first hand (for more information, see pages 60–63). I call in at Madai for a drink. This aperitif bar-restaurant is a particularly nice place to sit, beneath mature trees and looking out at a wall of retro shop signs from the 1950s to 1970s. Called Stadtschrift (city type), the project seeks to preserve examples of the historic signage that once was a ubiquitous feature of the Viennese urban landscape. Against this backdrop, my drink tastes even better.

Market Mood

Between the buildings, I can already see glimpses of the Karmelitermarkt, which is my next destination. In addition to fruit and vegetables, a handful of florists, long-established market stalls such as horsemeat specialist Gumprecht, and a farmers market on Fridays and Saturdays, there are also plenty of places to eat here. So much so, in fact, that I'm spoiled for choice. Should I head for Cafemima, and its beautifully planted, cheerfully colorful outdoor seating area? Or maybe hip-and-happening Tewa? Not to forget the nice little delis like Kaas am Markt and Zimmer 37, which also serve food and drinks. On Leopoldsgasse, too, one option follows the next. Schöne Perle puts its own spin to Viennese cuisine, Pizza Mari is a trendy pizzeria with very good Neapolitan pizzas, Okra Izakaya serves modern Japanese cuisine, while Skopik & Lohn's recipe for success centers on a cool interior, small dishes and good cocktails. Meanwhile, Kraus on Grosse Pfarrgasse is a great tip for a fine dining experience in a stylish ambience. In the evenings, Öl Bar beckons. The bars and restaurants on Leopoldsgasse confirm that the neighborhood fully deserves its hip tag.



Off to the Augarten

Well fed and watered, I stroll along Malzgasse, bound for the Augarten. Here, in the oldest Baroque garden in the city, a pair of World War II flak towers provide a stark reminder of a dark chapter in Austria's history. Two world-famous Viennese institutions also have their home in the Augarten: the Augarten Porcelain Manufactory and the Vienna Boys Choir. Upon arrival, I find a spot to relax on the grass and enjoy the perfect end to my neighborhood tour of the Karmeliterviertel.



Food & Drink

Bahur Tov

- Taborstrasse 19
→ www.bahur-tov.com

Kosher restaurant with Israeli cuisine.

Café-Bistrot Harvest

- Karmeliterplatz 1
→ www.harvest-bistrot.at

Cozy place offering vegan cuisine.

Kulturcafé Tachles

- Karmeliterplatz 1
→ www.cafe-tachles.at

Concerts and readings, in addition to Polish specialties.

Schank zum Reichsapfel

- Karmeliterplatz 3
→ www.zumreichsapfel.at

City wine tavern with typical Viennese wine tavern fare.

Vinifero

- Karmeliterplatz 2
→ vinifero.at

Wine bar specialized in natural wines.

Katscheli

- Karmelitergasse 7
→ www.katscheli.at

Nice café-bar, typical neighborhood hangout.

Madai

- Grosse Sperrlgasse 6
→ www.madai.at

Aperitivo meets Austrian eatery on an idyllic square in the Karmeliterviertel.

Cafemima

- Karmelitermarkt 21–24
→ www.cafemima.at

Pretty little market café with breakfast and small dishes.

Tewa

- Karmelitermarkt 25–29
→ www.tewa-karmelitermarkt.at

Contemporary and organic cuisine.

Kaas am Markt

- Karmelitermarkt 33–36
→ www.karmeliter.at

Mix of deli and café with high quality products and snacks.

Zimmer 37

- Karmelitermarkt 37–39
→ www.zimmer37.at

Deli and restaurant rolled into one, with veggie five elements cuisine.

Schöne Perle

- Grosse Pfarrgasse 2/Leopoldsgasse
→ www.schoene-perle.at

Pioneering Karmeliterviertel eatery.

Pizza Mari

- Leopoldsgasse 23a
→ www.pizzamari.at

Trendy pizzeria with very good Neapolitan pizzas.

Okra Izakaya

- Kleine Pfarrgasse 1
→ www.okra1020.com

Modern Japanese cuisine.

Skopik & Lohn

- Leopoldsgasse 17
→ www.skopikundlohn.at

Bar and restaurant with great food and ceiling painting by artist Otto Zitko.

Kraus

- Grosse Pfarrgasse 7
→ www.daskraus.at

Casual fine dining in a stylish setting.

Öl Bar

- Leopoldsgasse 26
→ www.oel.bar

Long drinks as well as natural wines are the focus here.





Sights

Crime Museum

- Grosse Sperlasse 24
→ wien.kriminalmuseum.at

Viennese criminal history of the past 300 years – best experienced with an audio guide in German or English.

Augarten

- Main entrance Obere Augartenstrasse 1

52.2-hectare park and Vienna's oldest surviving Baroque complex.

Augarten Porcelain Manufactory

- Obere Augartenstrasse 1
→ www.augarten.com

Founded in 1718, the Augarten Porcelain Manufactory is the second oldest of its kind in Europe. The porcelain museum comes highly recommended.

MuTh

- Am Augartenspitz 1
→ www.muth.at

The members of the Vienna Boys Choir (now including girls) can be seen and heard at their concert hall, MuTh im Augarten.

Shopping

Karmelitermarkt

- Between Krummbaumgasse/ Leopoldsgasse/Haidgasse

Viennese market incl. farmers' market on Fridays and Saturdays, with a great bar and restaurant scene.

Faschingsprinz

- Taborstrasse 11B
→ www.faschingsprinz.at

Fancy dress and party costumes – incl. rental.

Ohel

- Lilienbrunnengasse 18
→ www.ohel.at

Kosher bakery and café with traditional Viennese baked goods, cakes, and pastries.



(Text)
Maria SCHALLER

Much *Bahö* About Nothing?



Photo: © Patrick Langvaller

Talking brings people together – especially in Vienna. In this new podcast series, two characters meet up at various legendary Viennese locations. While each of them has a lot to say, at first glance they have nothing in common. Or do they?

After all, opposites attract, as they say. Bahö is a new podcast that brings together an unlikely couple. Two personalities, two worlds, two perspectives. Their conversations are recorded and shared with the world in a podcast. All of the pairings listed here are for German-language encounters, and more episodes – including some in English – are in the pipeline, too.

But first things first. The word Bahö – the title of the podcast – is used in Austria in roughly the same way as the English word hullabaloo. Well, maybe it's more like what the Scottish refer to as a stramash. In fact, it's fair to say everyone has their own slightly different interpretation. But in most cases, it's little more than a storm in a teacup – and, also typical for Vienna, much ado about nothing. We've invited a group of highly distinctive Viennese residents to get involved, all of whom know the city like the back of their hands. And all of whom are firmly established in their particular fields. People of a certain depth who also happen to have that legendary Viennese wit. Each of the three episodes featured below brings together a pair of apparently opposing personalities who are meeting for the first time. They talk about life, the universe and everything, and find out where their outlooks rub up against each other. So, it stands to reason that the odd Bahö bubbles to the surface every now and again ...

Johanna “Hanni” Vanicek and “Meta” Metamorkid

“A bit of a funny one!” – Hanni Vanicek has a clear picture of her guest in her mind's eye ahead of their meeting. The legendary owner of the 303-year-old linen store Zur Schwäbischen Jungfrau is the first to host our podcast. The “funny one” in question – drag queen Metamorkid – is already stalking along Graben and drawing attention to herself. Just like every other time that she is out in full regalia. More than 60 years and, at first glance, pretty much everything else imaginable, separate the two participants in this episode. But it quickly becomes clear that the two are, in fact, one heart and one soul. Both are pioneers when it comes to what they do. Successful entrepreneurs and independent women through and through. As well as open, talkative and unfiltered. And both use Vienna as their stage like no other.

Vanicek gives Meta a tour of her store and her world, which the drag queen previously took to be “a world of luxury and a different class.” The two learn a lot about the realities of their counterpart's life that they had been completely oblivious of until now. Even if it triggers the occasional shake of the head. The conversation between the two is charged (when it comes to the Rainbow Parade), emotional (what expectations do they have of love?) and entertaining, not least because they have so many anecdotes from their everyday lives to draw upon. When Vanicek talks about her seven marriage proposals or drinking whiskey with Dean Martin in Las Vegas, Metamorkid can't help but laugh.

The chat between the protagonists (both coincidentally wearing elegant jet-black outfits today) is so animated that it is soon time for a coffee and cigarette break. Which they spontaneously spend together outside in front of the store. Afterwards, the two exchange Vienna tips, reveal whereabouts in the city they prefer to enjoy a spot of art and culture, or go on into the small hours. “I've learned a lot, think you're great and really admirable,” Johanna Vanicek announces as she says goodbye, clasping Meta's hand. “It was an honor to meet you and it gave me a clearer perspective. We'll definitely be seeing each other again,” the drag queen promises, before disappearing into the crowds on Graben.





Photo: © David Wedenig

Marianne Kohn and Klaus Albrecht Schröder

Some say that in Vienna there is not ‘that one bar’, but actually only one bar. And this always refers to the American Bar, designed in 1908 by the legendary architect Adolf Loos, located in a side street just off Kärntner Strasse. On a Friday morning in summer, two personalities meet here who are as well known in Vienna as the Loos Bar itself. “I don’t even know what to say or ask,” Marianne Kohn confesses before welcoming Albertina director Klaus Albrecht Schröder into her bar, which she has managed since 1994. But the owner of the cult bar, which measures just 27 square meters, is anything but shy. Affectionately known for years here in Vienna as the Queen of the Night and host to a revolving cast of local and international stars, it is she and she alone who calls the shots here.

Cultural manager Schröder, who will step down at the end of 2024 after 25 years at the helm of the Albertina, outs himself as a huge fan of the “most famous bar in the world. There is no other place with a reputation like it.” The pair soon find out that they live just five minutes from each other. And that they sometimes have very different views. “I hate cyclists, there are some really terrible ones,” is Kohn’s take. “You’re poking a wound there,” says

Schröder, who is an all-weather cyclist. The consensus starts to build, though, when it comes to the enormous importance of art in Vienna or the idea that a certain dress code should be observed in museums and bars. Men dressed in shorts will find themselves unceremoniously ejected from the Loos Bar – something that a guest finds out for himself this very day. But that isn’t something that will happen to Mr. Schröder any time soon – “I’m buttoned up wherever I go.” But the two also turn to serious topics, including life and death. Schröder finds death “scandalous”, while Kohn finds it “funny”.

The Albertina boss is full of praise for his host at the end – “It’s been wonderful talking to you”, before summarizing the amusing conversation as follows: “I think it’s a very good idea to bring people together whose paths don’t cross every day. We’re used to making commercials that are all about harmony and beautiful images. But Vienna is much more diverse. A podcast like this reflects Vienna’s attractiveness.” Bar owner Kohn is happy to have been reminded of the word Bahö, too: “I haven’t heard it in ages. But I should make a mental note of it – we’re bringing it into the modern world now.”

Photo: © David Wedenig





Photo: © Patrick Langwallner

Michael Moser and Christoph Pehofer

Michael Moser leaves nothing to chance. With a cheat sheet full of notes, the legendary former head concierge of the Hotel Imperial who was in post 31 years, welcomes his guest – a person who has yet to reach 31 years of age: Christoph Pehofer. A couchsurfer who stays with private individuals around the globe and also offers his sofa to foreign visitors in Vienna, today is immersing himself into another world at this venerable luxury hotel. The setting for the conversation is superb: the 150-square-meter Royal Suite, which has hosted various heads of states and superstars over the years. After just a few minutes, the mood is already right. “I’m already allowed to call him Michi,” says Pehofer with a grin. Moser: “The chemistry’s there. After all, someone could have come along who was aggressive.” Pehofer, who has brought out a documentary film about his great passion called “Couch Connections”, is a new-media aficionado. Moser, on the other hand, initially misunderstands the word podcast and “only found out what couchsurfing was today at 12 o’clock.”

The two listen intently as they find out more about each other. Talk turns to the question of the role of luxury in travel. For Pehofer, “it’s more

important how big the heart is, not the house”. Moser points out that guests at the Hotel Imperial are offered a lot, but that rooms start at EUR 450 per night. Pehofer: “I can get by on that in India for a whole month.” It’s also clear that each of the two has experienced a lot in the course of the numerous encounters they’ve had. From visiting a nudist in New York to hotel guests going to the opera over 5,000 times.

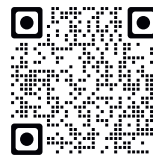
And of course, this day would not be complete without a legendary Imperial Torte, of which Moser has polished off around 500 over the years: “One slice every day. But then again, I was on my feet all the time.” Couchsurfer Pehofer receives one as a present to take home with him. It is, of course, delivered in style – directly to the suite by room service. He enjoys it the same evening, with the couchsurfer who is currently occupying his sofa.

Photo: © Patrick Langwallner



TUNE IN

Bahö is a clarion call for mutual listening and understanding. The episodes, which last about half an hour, are characterized by respect, depth and no small amount of humor. Its inhabitants make the city what it is. If you look into their souls a little, you will also get to know Vienna in a whole new way. Bahö is available in German and can be found wherever you get your podcasts. Or just scan the QR code and subscribe to Bahö to make sure you never miss another exciting episode. English ones are in the works.





The *Third Man*, the most famous Vienna film of all time, celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2024. The stone steps leading to the Maria am Gestade church featured in one of the many chase scenes. The screenplay foreshadowed the capital's emergence as a hotbed for secret services.

(Text)
Johannes LUXNER

Watch Out, Spies About!

(Photos)
Paul BAUER

Vienna is beautiful, Vienna is international, and Vienna is ground zero for secret and intelligence services from all over the world. According to the experts, there are literally thousands of intelligence officers living in the city. Here you can find out why – and that even *The Third Man* screenwriter Graham Greene was a spy.

Every time you go for a stroll in Vienna, there is a relatively good chance you will cross paths with intelligence officers from all kinds of countries. But don't worry, you will never notice. And this curious feature of Viennese life doesn't pose any danger either. After all, the rampant spying that goes on in Vienna day in, day out goes back a long way. A super slick system to those in the know, it was established long before the Cold War and the release of silver screen classic *The Third Man*. These days, it's estimated that more than 7,000 intelligence officers from all over the world live and work in Vienna.

Meeting Destination for Conspiratorial Forces

"The US is part of this hotbed of espionage, alongside Russia, the UK, and China. Countries like Iran and Turkey are also strongly represented," explains Thomas Riegler, intelligence expert and author of the book *Austria's Secret Services*, over a coffee at Café Eiles in Vienna. Vienna's image as an important meeting place for people from all over the world also applies to intelligence and secret services – Vienna as a meeting destination for conspiratorial forces. "Geneva, Brussels, and Vienna are currently the main spy locations in Europe. Budapest is in the process of catching up," Riegler confirms, listing Europe's top spy hotspots.

Vienna is interesting to intelligence agencies for lots of reasons. The structural and political developments of the post-war decades in particular had a significant hand in shaping the present-day situation. Riegler: "Vienna's status as a location for countless international organizations and an official seat of the UN are important factors. And Austria's neutrality also has a role to play." But the Austrian legal environment is another feather in the city's cap, according to Riegler: "Espionage is only deemed a criminal offence here if it is directed against the state of Austria. So if other countries spy on each other in Vienna, there is no threat of sanctions." While these structures have steadily developed over the decades, their roots run deep.

Vienna – the Perfect Hub

"It all started in the wake of the First World War," says Riegler, describing the origins of today's epicenter of espionage. "Vienna's geographical location right in the center of Europe was crucial to developments at the time – a perfect hub in all directions, with good transport links." Characterized by widespread political instability, the 1920s were a time of reordering for Europe. As a result, the major powers' need for information was high. "MI6, the British intelligence service, had its main overseas station in Vienna in the 1920s, at a time when the



Soviet Union was also very active in this city.” But Vienna’s heyday as a center for intelligence and secret services would not come until the end of World War II in 1945, when the Cold War slowly started to crystallize. Vienna’s positioning in this regard was foreshadowed by, of all things, a piece of cinema history.

The Third Man as a Vehicle for the Secret Services

Made in the late 1940s and the most famous Vienna movie of them all, *The Third Man* is still considered one of the best films of all time. 2024 will mark the 75th anniversary of its release. It shows Vienna’s soft underbelly shortly after the end of the Second World War. While *The Third Man* is actually a crime thriller rather than a spy movie, for many it symbolizes the world of espionage. The black-and-white classic gives viewers a feel of the myriad conspiratorial forces at work in post-war Vienna. And it is all by design rather than accident. Riegler: “Many people involved in the film had close ties to intelligence agencies. Graham Greene, who wrote the script, was employed by MI6 during World War II, so he had significant knowledge in this area.” And the film’s producer Alexander Korda, who came up with the original idea for *The Third Man*, also maintained close ties to Anglo-American intelligence services. Korda’s production company, London Films, repeatedly served as a front that allowed operatives to infiltrate other countries’ intelligence services undetected. Greene and Korda were very well acquainted with intelligence practices. A number of ideas that found their way into the screenplay of *The Third Man* are also likely to have come from Viennese secret service circles – including the famous chase through the Viennese sewers. And elsewhere too, the film is bursting with evocative imagery. Riegler: “It starts with Harry Lime’s attire – from the dark overcoat to the black wide-brimmed hat. He is being pursued by two British intelligence officers. To this day, Anton Karas’ zither music remains the spy movie soundtrack par excellence.” Ultimately, the movie positioned Vienna as a secret service location, which was very much in keeping with the capital’s image as a multi-layered city. An atmospheric picture indeed.

Espionage in Coffeehouses

A number of other typical Viennese settings also share links with the world of the secret and intelligence services. “The Viennese coffeehouse as a social meeting place has always had close ties to intelligence activities. More so in the past than today – because a lot has since shifted online,” Riegler explains. Café Landtmann and Café Schwarzenberg, for example, were very important in this respect. “Hotels such as the Hotel Regina and the Hotel Imperial have also played an integral role in Vienna’s history as a center of espionage.” At any rate, Vienna enjoys an outstanding reputation among secret service agents. Being stationed in Vienna looks good on any intelligence résumé. Riegler: “At the CIA, having been a chief of station in Vienna is still considered a great career honor.” But this is not the only reason why Vienna is popular with employees of secret and intelligence services. “The high overall quality of life in Vienna and the beauty of the city also have a role to play. So in this sense, they are no different to other expats. And one thing that is appreciated about Vienna, especially by people who have been stationed all over the world, is that they don’t catch tropical diseases here.”

Photo left:

The gateway to Vienna’s underworld in Stadtpark: *The Third Man* elevated the Viennese sewer system to almost mythological status. Considered a masterpiece of the filmmaker’s art, the pursuit scene went down in movie history. This original film location is part of the *Third Man Tour* experience.

● Recommended reading:
Thomas Riegler
Österreichs geheime Dienste –
Eine neue Geschichte
(German language only)
Klever Verlag, Vienna 2022



The Mölker Bastei just behind Vienna's Ringstrasse boulevard is where Holly Martins spots Harry Lime's ghost-like shadow. Leaving the fictional world of film noir aside, today Vienna is home to thousands of intelligence agents from around the world. The Austrian capital is a hotbed of European espionage.

Following in the Footsteps of Harry Lime

Want to experience the world of *The Third Man* in Vienna? These locations in the city bring the world of Harry Lime and Holly Martins back to life.

Third Man Museum

Located in the Freihausviertel not far from the Naschmarkt, the Third Man Museum is an exceptional attraction for fans of the classic film. Over 2,500 original *Third Man* exhibits including scripts, props and posters await visitors. And the museum operators' love for the film is plain to see. An absolute insider tip for all visitors to Vienna who are looking for a unique experience.

- Third Man Museum
Pressgasse 25, 1040 Vienna
www.drittemann.at

Giant Ferris Wheel

A ride on the Giant Ferris Wheel instantly conjures up a real *Third Man* atmosphere. It is here, high above Vienna, that one of the most important scenes of the film plays out, in which Harry Lime reveals himself to Holly Martins as an unscrupulous smuggler of adulterated penicillin who places little value on human life. The dialog has gone down in film history, losing none of its hold even 75 years after the movie's release.

- Giant Ferris Wheel
Prater, 1020 Vienna
www.wienerriesenrad.com

Third Man Tour

Vienna's sewers are among the film's most iconic locations. And thanks to the chase scene, the capital's underground sewerage network is now the stuff of legend. This original film location can be experienced as part of the *Third Man* Tour. An extraordinary tour awaits, even if it can get a little smelly down here sometimes. A view shared by Orson Welles, who enlisted a Viennese butcher to act as his double for some of the sewer scenes.

- Third Man Tour
Karlsplatz/Girardipark (opposite Café Museum)
1040 Vienna
www.drittemanntour.at

Burg Kino

The best way to get in the mood for Harry Lime and Holly Martins' Vienna? Watch the original English version of *The Third Man*. Exactly as it should be for die-hard film fans – on the big screen, in the cinema. The Burg Kino cinema, located directly on the Ringstrasse near the State Opera, screens the classic movie at least three times a week. Roll film!

- Burg Kino
Opernring 19, 1010 Vienna
www.burgkino.at

Viennese Spy Stories

Have you been wondering who the gentleman in the trench coat and wide-brimmed hat is in the photos that accompany this story? His name is Jascha Novak and he runs the Hidden Vienna Tours. His Viennese Espionage Stories city tour is dedicated to the secret services in Vienna, and soon creates a cloak-and-dagger atmosphere as it makes its way across the first district.

- Viennese Spy Stories
Guided tour registrations:
www.hiddenvienna.guide



Site of the famous dialogue between Harry Lime and Holly Martins: one of Vienna's landmarks, the Giant Ferris Wheel has always been a popular filming location. James Bond also went for a spin on this Viennese landmark.



Art & Culture

The whale only wants people to take pictures of it wearing a crown as it casts its eye over exciting and inclusive artworks that bring people closer together.

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Ten Questions for Robert Gabris

The versatile artist won the 2022 Belvedere Art Award. He takes a stand against marginalization and racism.

30

Poldi and Palaces

Visitors to Vienna's Gusshausviertel district will not only find a whale at the newly opened Wien Museum on Karlsplatz, but beautiful city palaces and mansion houses alongside great places to eat.

35

Photos in Focus

Vienna will soon have a permanent location for photography: Foto Arsenal Wien, which will open in a modernized brick building at the start of 2025.

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Crown Witness

State-of-the-art technology reveals the secrets of the legendary crown of the Holy Roman Empire more than 1,000 years down the line. A project at the Imperial Treasury is bringing astonishing discoveries to light.



Ten Questions for *Robert Gabris*

(Interview)
Susanna BURGER

(Photo)
Michal BLECHA

Installation, animation, performance, photography, conceptual art – these are the different worlds that Robert Gabris, a self-professed “Viennese by choice”, moves in. He takes a stand against marginalization and racism – as an award-winning visual artist, as an activist, and as part of the queer and Roma communities. Impossible to pigeonhole, brimming with commitment and winner of the Belvedere Art Award in 2022.

www.robertgabris.com

Robert Gabris Award Exhibition
Belvedere Art Award:

Sep 8, 2023 – Feb 18, 2024
Belvedere 21
www.belvedere.at

- ① **What brought you from Slovakia, where you were born, to Vienna?**
Firstly my studies at the Academy of Fine Arts. And secondly, it was here that I fell in love for the first time.
- ② **Three words that sum up your experience of studying at the Academy of Fine Arts?**
Freedom: we could experiment a lot, the process was more important than the result.
Bubble: everything felt like it was pinky-soft.
Friendships: I found a clique that I still hang around with to this day.
- ③ **What do you look to express through your art?**
Sensitivity, solidarity, anger, negotiating opportunities, inclusion, self-reflection.
- ④ **Which communities do you fly the flag for?**
I do not define myself just as a Roma artist. My work deals with changeable identity, including queer, with bodies that stand for diversity and strive against patriarchal norms.
- ⑤ **Are you a troublemaker?**
I like to stir up trouble, because it's very productive. The world needs more stimulation! Everything is taken for granted too much.
- ⑥ **What are you working on right now?**
I am preparing lots of exhibitions, jumping from piece to piece. And on the side, I'm writing poetry and learning Romani – the language of my ancestors.
- ⑦ **Where can we find your art?**
There's always a lot to see in my studio. Especially a lot of stuff that hasn't been finished yet or is being saved for later. I have a solo exhibition in Vienna at Belvedere 21 which runs until February 18, 2024. You are all very welcome to come and see it.
- ⑧ **Your favorite place in Vienna and your feelings about it?**
A pond at Wienerberg. This is where I like to dive in.
- ⑨ **Your contemporary art tip for Vienna?**
There's just so much happening right now and everywhere, too. Among the many things I like is the “Curated by” gallery festival in autumn.
- ⑩ **What's life like for you in Vienna as an artist?**
I feel at home here, artists are just super comfortable here. Life in Vienna is easy-going. I've been to many other cities, but there's no other place like it.

Poldi and Palaces

(Text)
Maria SCHALLER



Dream view: looking towards Karlskirche from the brand new terrace of the Wien Museum.

Photo: © Paul Bauer

This Viennese neighborhood has it all – a stroll through it delivers a little bit of everything. Get ready to enjoy the spectacular new Wien Museum and its compelling surroundings: Karlsplatz and the adjacent Gusshausviertel. Here, the city feels opulent, global, laid back, and Viennese all at the same time.

Crossing the threshold of the new Wien Museum makes for a magical moment. A completely renovated and expanded building shines bright on Karlsplatz: Vienna's recently reopened city museum. Although it has been brought up to the state of the art, retained elements of the original building ensure it is just as charming as it always was. Designed by renowned Viennese architect Oswald Haerdtl



Mascot Poldi is suspended from the ceiling of the giant new central hall.

Photo: © Paul Bauer

and opened in 1959, the old museum was bursting at the seams and in need of renovation. So the heritage-listed building was modernized from the ground up by Certov, Winkler + Ruck, a team of Austrian architects, who also added a new top floor. And what an addition it is: an exposed béton brut cube now "floats" above the original building. While the old and new buildings do not actually touch each other, no one would ever know. One of the real attractions of the design is the connecting element created in the open space between the two: a terrace floor with a fabulous view of Karlskirche (Church of St. Charles) and the area beyond. In addition to opening up this panorama, the new floor comprises space for a café, an event center and studios for educational programs. Best of all, the terrace level as well as the permanent exhibition can be visited free of charge.

Twice the Space

The old, new home for Vienna's urban history provides plenty of space for exchange and is consciously seeking to involve its local neighborhood. A spacious glass pavilion has been added to the entrance lobby, designed to create an open and welcoming ambience. Looking out over Karlsplatz, the restaurant (including outdoor seating) and the completely redesigned park in front of the museum are set to become urban hotspots. The net floor space of the museum has almost doubled under the project, to 12,000 m². And it also meets the latest standards in terms of energy efficiency. Thanks to geothermal energy, solar panels and high-spec insulation, the building covers almost all of its own energy needs.

It's not just the museum that's cast in a starring role, but what's on show inside, too. Temporary

exhibitions have pride of place on the floating floor. Among the highlights for 2024 are Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach (opens February 1) and Secessions – Klimt, Stuck, Liebermann (opens May 23). In the original building, the history of the city is told on three floors that spiral upwards.

Comprising around 1,700 objects, the new permanent show aims to shed light on how people lived in Vienna during the different eras – starting with early history and the days of the Romans, continuing through to the Ottoman sieges, and then on to the Ringstrasse period and Vienna's Golden Age. The journey through time continues with Red Vienna, National Socialism and the post-war period up to the present day. The former atrium has been converted into a 25-meter-high central hall, where pride of place is given to the museum's largest pieces. These include the museum's mascot, Poldi (a ten-meter long, 1.7-ton model of a whale which once adorned legendary eatery Zum Walfisch



Karlsplatz is the gateway to the Gusshausviertel neighborhood with its wonderful architecture.

Photo: © Daniel Gebhart de Koekoek



Urban life takes place all year round in front of the Karlskirche.

Photo: © Daniel Gebhart de Koekoek

in the Prater park), a magnificent mayoral carriage, a model of St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Waldheim horse, the old Südbahnhof station lettering, and the original sculptures from the Donnerbrunnen fountain.

Karlsplatz Rendezvous

Karlsplatz is located right on the Wien Museum's doorstep. An urban space that is filled with life around the clock by people of all ages, it is also connected to one of Vienna's key central transportation hubs. Once the sprawling Resselpark is included, the area comprises almost 50,000 m² of mostly green space. Karlsplatz is increasingly distancing itself from its once slightly down-at-heel image. Bars and restaurants (such as Heuer) and cultural facilities (such as the Kunsthalle) complement the cast of temporary attractions that set up shop here. These returning highlights on Vienna's event calendar include the Art Advent Christmas Market, which is famed for artisan handicrafts and organic-certified food, as well as the free, multi-day Popfest Wien, during which local musicians bring the square to life every July. Lots of other events also draw in countless visitors, such as Kaleidoskop, a free open-air cinema festival, and Karlstag, when nearby cultural institutes serve up a packed program. And in the gaps between, people also like to

meet up here to enjoy a drink by the pond, or relax on one of the benches and watch the world go by. Or to visit one of the most beautiful sights in Vienna: the Karlskirche church, which was completed in 1739. Its monumental green dome and opulent interiors put this epitome of Baroque architecture in a class of its own.

Off to the Chic Gusshausviertel

Right behind Karlskirche church, a fantastic Viennese neighborhood opens up: the Gusshausviertel in Wieden, Vienna's fourth district. A typical, fairly densely populated part of the city defined by late-19th-century apartment buildings, it is sandwiched between some of the city's most important landmarks. The quarter is framed by Karlsplatz and the grounds of the Belvedere, as well as the site of the Hauptbahnhof, Vienna's main railway station. The perfect starting point for any foray into the local neighborhood is Argentinierstrasse, which leads off Karlsplatz. The name memorializes the financial support provided by Argentina after the First World War. And it quickly becomes clear how international this area is. In some places, one embassy and consulate follows the next. Many are housed in magnificent buildings. "In the Gusshausviertel we see wonderful streets and late-19th-century Gründerzeit buildings, many of

which are in pristine condition. There is a considerable density of former city palaces and mansion houses here, and, by contrast, hardly any social housing developments,” says Philipp Maurer, director of the delightful Wieden District Museum, which is located in a former municipal public bath.

Looking along Argentinierstrasse, the magnificent neo-Gothic Elisabethkirche church – set in its own space – hoves into view. Many Viennese enjoy the sight from their bicycle, because this street is one of the busiest cycle paths in the city, since it connects the main station with the city center. Argentinierstrasse will be converted into a Fahrradstrasse, or bicycle street, by fall 2024, at which point the entire width of the carriageway will be opened up to bicycle traffic. Landscaping and traffic-calming measures will also be introduced. Although cyclists are bringing movement into the neighborhood, life plays out at a rather relaxed pace here. With everything shifted down a gear, all that is left is to savor the surroundings and the neighborhood’s culinary and cultural delights.



Argentinierstrasse, the main artery running through the neighborhood, is currently being transformed into a contemporary bicycle street.

Photo: © Daniel Gebhart de Koekoek

Colorful Foodie Scene

A few meters behind the Karlskirche church is Gusshausstrasse, once the location of the former imperial and royal cannon foundry (Gusshaus), which gave the neighborhood its name. Today, a faculty building of the Vienna University of Technology (TU) is located on the site. The post-war architecture of the TU and other buildings provide an interesting visual contrast in the neighborhood. Many of the district’s culinary highlights can also be found here – and anyone looking for Viennese cuisine will not be disappointed. Family business Buchecker & Son serves up delicious old Viennese specialties, including ofal dishes. Its “Viennese tapas” is the pinnacle of refinement. Things continue in a traditional vein at the Wiener Wiazhaus, a quaint restaurant with retro charm and divine-tasting Viennese classics.

But the Gusshausviertel also has a cosmopolitan side. At Z’som, a Tyrolean-Chilean couple serve up innovative dishes that change monthly – bistro culture at its best. It’s hard to miss Gorilla Kitchen, which is a hybrid café, bar and restaurant serving Mexican street food. Talking of bars: five brothers, the Casolaro Bros, serve up good vibes and delicious specialties from their Neapolitan homeland at their eatery of the same name. Aperitivo ambience in the heart of Vienna. Another family affair, Wein & Kunst is a small but perfectly formed wine bar run by a father and son duo. And Carl Ludwig Cafe on Favoritenstrasse also warrants a visit. Located in the grounds of Palais Erzherzog Carl Ludwig, it offers specialty coffees, sweet treats and a wonderful terrace with colorful seating.



Gastronomy awaits around every corner in this neighborhood.

Photo: © Daniel Gebhart de Koekoek

Even More Highlights ...

As in all Vienna's neighborhoods, the best experiences are to be had by going with the flow and soaking up the atmosphere. The Gusshausviertel is home to numerous other exciting institutions of all stripes. The ORF RadioKulturhaus, located in the Funkhaus Wien broadcasting house (a heritage-listed building from the interwar period), provides a rich cultural diet for the neighborhood. Events of all kinds take place here – from concerts to meetings. Just a few meters away is Theater Akzent, a theater built in the post-modern architectural style, and which opened in the late 1980s. Its three halls host a regular line up of theater, cabaret, dance and much more. On the way there, Anton Benya Park provides the perfect spot to pause and sit down. This popular green space was recently modernized, with various measures introduced to help address climate change. Re-energized after a break, it is worth taking the time to explore the adjacent Elisabethviertel, where al fresco coffee and snack options can be found near the Elisabethkirche church. Heading towards the main railway station, a time-honored coffeehouse institution awaits on the next corner: Café Goldegg – an ideal setting to finish off a tour of the neighborhood, over Viennese coffeehouse cuisine and pastries. The interior design is glorious – wood paneling, dark green plush upholstery, brass chandeliers and more.



It doesn't get more Viennese than this: Café Goldegg near the Elisabethkirche church.

Photo: © Daniel Gebhart de Koekkoek

Sights

WIEN MUSEUM

Karlsplatz 8
www.wienmuseum.at

KARLSKIRCHE

Karlsplatz 10
www.karlskirche.at

ORF RADIOKULTURHAUS

Argentinerstrasse 30A
radiokulturhaus.orf.at

THEATER AKZENT

Theresianumgasse 18
www.akzent.at

ELISABETHKIRCHE

Sankt-Elisabeth-Platz 9

Food & Drink

GASTHAUS BUCHECKER & SOHN

Gusshausstrasse 23
www.gasthaus-bueckerundsohn.at

WIENER WIAZHAUS

Karlgasse 22
www.wiener-wiazhaus.at

Z'SOM

Gusshausstrasse 12
zsom-restaurant.at

GORILLA KITCHEN

Gusshausstrasse 19
www.gorillakitchen.at

WEIN & KUNST

Argentinerstrasse 18
www.weinundkunst.at

CASOLARO BROS

Wohllebengasse 15
[@casolarobros](https://www.casolarobros.com)

CARL LUDWIG CAFE

Favoritenstrasse 7
www.carlludwig.cafe

CAFÉ GOLDEGG

Argentinerstrasse 49
www.cafegoldegg.at

Photos in Focus



(Text)
Maria SCHALLER

(Rendering)
MALEK HERBST ARCHITEKTEN

(Illustration)
Francesco CICCOLELLA

Vienna will soon have its own location for photography: Foto Arsenal Wien. Planning for the new center is already in full swing ahead of its upcoming move into Vienna's Arsenal development – a former military building complex in the third district, which is fast emerging as a new cultural area.

It's impossible to imagine life without photography. "No other medium is so deeply embedded in our society. Social media, image manipulation, etc. – in the 21st century, we all have to learn how to approach questions like these," says Felix Hoffmann, artistic director of the new Foto Arsenal Wien. Close to Hauptbahnhof, Vienna's main railway station, everything will revolve around the topic of photography here from early 2025. The Austrian capital has a thriving photography scene, and after lengthy deliberations, it is now creating its own purpose-built center dedicated to the genre. It will not be a museum with its own collection. Instead, the location will serve as a central exhibition venue that raises the visibility of various national and international museums and galleries' collections. Between nine to twelve temporary exhibitions each year will showcase analog and digital photography, with contemporary work and international aspects firmly in the viewfinder.

Currently in the process of being remodeled and extended upwards, Objekt 19, a brick building in the Arsenal, will house the new center. The pre-

mises will be shared with Filmmuseum LAB, the Austrian Film Museum's state-of-the-art conservation and digitization laboratory. A trendy restaurant and a large outdoor area including a piazza are set to feature, too. Discussions are taking place regarding the addition of a new public transport stop, with plans also afoot to fill the outdoor space with art. It really is in the best of company at the Arsenal: together with its future neighbors – various rehearsal stages, the Museum of Military History and Belvedere 21 – it will become a new Viennese cultural cluster. The biennial Foto Wien festival has also been allied to the new center since 2023.

● www.fotoarsenalwien.at, www.fotowien.at



Crown Witness

(Text)
Robert SEYDEL

(Photos)
KHM-MUSEUMSVERBAND



Where high-tech meets 1,000 years of history: for the very first time, a team from the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna is using state-of-the-art equipment to thoroughly examine the legendary crown of the Holy Roman Empire. The insights picked up along the way are as surprising as they are spectacular.

It is the highlight of the Imperial Treasury in Vienna, and part of the oldest, most comprehensive collection of medieval regalia: the Imperial Crown, which was used for the coronations of the kings and emperors of the Holy Roman Empire from the Middle Ages all the way through to 1792. But now, the octagonal crown is being examined in minute detail for the first time. Numerous myths surround this extraordinary example of the goldsmith's art. No one knows when – or where – it was actually made. For a long time it was thought that the crown was created for Emperor Charlemagne and his coronation in the year 800 AD. "But this myth was debunked a long time ago," explains art historian Franz Kirchweyer, who is leading the project for the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna (which the Imperial Treasury belongs to): "That said, contentious ideas continue to surface when it comes to dating the piece: they range from the time of Emperor Otto the Great, who was crowned in 962, to the reign of King Conrad III from 1138 to 1152." And now an attempt is being made to use cutting-edge technology to crack this historical conundrum once and for all.



Eight experts examine the crown.

State-of-the-Art Research Tools

X-ray fluorescence analysis and 3D digital microscopy are among the principal methods being deployed to come up with answers. Whatever the technique, one thing is always the same: owing to its fragility, the crown cannot come to the equipment, so the equipment had to come to the crown in Vienna. X-ray fluorescence analysis can be used

to determine the precise chemical composition of materials. "This delivers important information about things like enameling and metal alloys," Kirchweyer reveals.

3D digital microscopy makes it possible to grade the pearls, gemstones and decorative elements, and to determine their dimensions. At up to 2,500-times magnification. "By the end of 2022, we'd taken 60,000 images with it," Kirchweyer notes. In May 2022, all 172 stones on the crown had been identified for the first time: 71 sapphires, 50 garnets, 20 emeralds, 13 amethysts, four chalcedonies (a semi-precious gemstone), three spinels (a type of mineral) and eleven differently colored pieces of glass. The expert explained that X-ray fluorescence analysis will help uncover even more information about the origin of the stones.

Examining the crown's inner plates without damaging them posed a particular challenge. To do so, the lens of the 3D microscope was mounted on a movable arm. And a table with an octagonal opening was constructed to allow the lens to be inserted inside the crown from beneath. The result: high-resolution scans of all of the plates that come together to form the band of the crown, the hoop, the cross, and the enamel plaques.

"Sensational!"

A spectacular discovery was made along the way: two ancient amethyst intaglios – cut gemstones with a pictorial representation – were uncovered on one of the inner plates. They show a mythical figure with a theater mask, and a harbor scene. Kirchweyer: "It is truly sensational!" Particularly because the sides of the image are turned inward and not visible from the outside, as a result. "Research has been conducted on the crown for nearly 250 years. The fact that we were still able to discover something completely new really is quite extraordinary." The use of the 3D digital microscope also had a decisive role to play here. The intaglio featuring the theater mask is the earliest and most beautiful example of its kind. It was probably created getting on for 2,100 years ago.

However, taken in isolation, the data obtained is of little use to the researchers. Kirchweyer: "We need related material to help us interpret the facts and make comparisons." To do this, eight pieces from a similar period (10th and 11th century) were

selected. Among them goldsmith's work from the Treasury at Essen Cathedral and a golden book cover that has been restored at the Louvre in Paris. "It is important to examine these precious pieces on site using the same methods and equipment," Kirchweger explains.



Almost 2,100 years old, this intaglio has only just been discovered.

Slipped from the Cushion

Historical images and texts are also being sought out and sifted through to provide additional insights. For example, to determine if and where any changes have been made over the centuries. Kirchweger: "Our colleague Evelyn Klammer combed through over 6,000 pieces of data. 600 images were added to our database as a result for closer examination."

This also applies to damage, such as the documented loss of a gemstone at the coronation of Joseph II as Roman-German King in Frankfurt am Main in 1764. "On the way to the coronation church, the crown slipped off the cushion it was resting on. In the process, a sapphire from the back plate was lost," Kirchweger recounts. "The stone was replaced with a hyacinth. Today, you can still see that there is a different border at this point than for the other stones."

Eventful History

The crown, which weighs in at impressive 3.5 kilos, has been through a lot of adventures. Probably made in a workshop somewhere in the Lower Rhine region, it is mentioned for the first time in 1246.

From 1424, this piece of imperial regalia was kept in Nuremberg. In 1792, the last coronation of a Holy Roman Emperor took place. And then Napoleon swept across Europe. To keep the precious crown out of his clutches, it was spirited to safety and ended up in Vienna. In 1827, it was put on show at the Imperial Treasury. In 1938, Hitler had it returned to Nuremberg. Kept in a beer cellar that was converted into a bunker and later walled into an alcove, the crown survived the Second World War unscathed. In 1946, it returned to Vienna for good.

The research project will continue until the end of 2024. Eight people from the fields of art history, history, restoration and natural science are hard at work unlocking its final secrets. But will they ever find out when the crown was made and when it was used for the first time? Kirchweger has a diplomatic answer for us: "In my estimation, we'll have to continue to work off assumptions and informed speculation. But that doesn't mean that we're not already hoping we'll be able to narrow down the time frame." So watch this space.

● Imperial Treasury Vienna
Hofburg, Schweizerhof, 1010 Vienna
www.kaiserliche-schatzkammer.at
www.projekt-reichskrone.at



60,000 images were captured with the help of the 3D microscope.



Detail of a decorative element (20x magnification).

Every single detail of the crown has a meaning. The four plates depict kings and prophets of the Old Testament (King Solomon is shown here).

R E X
S A L O M O N





Music

Bedroom beats, visionary violinmaking,
and twelve-tone music performed live in
a former erotic cinema.

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Ten Questions for Nik Dean

His bedroom in Vienna's fifth district is his studio.
The 33-year-old Viennese beatmaker has made it all the way
to the top of the US Billboard charts multiple times.

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Virtuoso Violinmakers

Zhihong Shang and Johann Song came to Vienna from
China in the 1980s to make violins. A workshop visit.

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Live at Porgy & Bess

Viennese jazz and music club Porgy & Bess ranks among
the best in the world. We drop in for a live gig.

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Sound Revolutionary and Universal Artist

Tradition was not his cup of tea. Arnold Schoenberg
revolutionized the music world with his twelve-tone method.
2024 will mark the 150th anniversary of his birth.



billboard

BILLBOARD 200

WEEK OF 05/11/2019

1 1 18757

2 1 GUMNA

COVER

#1

#1

#1

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Ten Questions for *Nik Dean*

(Interview)
Maria SCHALLER

(Photo)
Erol HASIC

The music producer has made it all the way to the top of the US Billboard charts multiple times from his bedroom studio in Vienna's fifth district. The 33-year-old Viennese with Serbian roots composes music for superstars like Travis Scott, G-Eazy and Gunna. The fruits of his labors are hip-hop, RnB and pop hits that get streamed hundreds of millions of times on the web.

Dejan Nikolic
aka Nik Dean

@nik.dean

① **What do you do exactly?**

I compose music for artists, who then record their work over the top of my melodies and beats. I make the music that plays in the background.

② **And how did it all come about?**

I started when I was 13 and then built up a network through social media. It's a bit like dating – you have to convince other people about how good you are. People liked it and so one thing led to another.

③ **Do you have any formal musical training?**

No, but you can learn everything you need for yourself, also thanks to YouTube. My mouse is my instrument. I feel the music without knowing exactly why. I grew up with Michael Jackson in particular and just wanted to come up with what he sings over.

④ **How does it feel to climb to the top of the US charts?**

Incredible. You feel proud, but that feeling also fades fast. I guess you could say that the journey is the destination.

⑤ **Your biggest dream?**

The Grammys, of course. I think it's possible, but there's also a bit of luck involved. I've already come close. But whatever's meant to happen, will happen.

⑥ **How much do you produce?**

Sometimes a beat a day, sometimes five. I used to do it all day long, but you've got to look out for yourself.

⑦ **How do you work with the music stars?**

Lots of people think I'm in L. A., not Vienna. I do everything from home. Sometimes I get specific commissions. In some cases I have to wait for an album to drop before I can hear my songs.

⑧ **How many awards do you have up on your wall?**

Four gold and three platinum discs. I've actually won more awards in the meantime, but you need to order them and have someone send them to you. It's more expensive than you might think.

⑨ **What does Vienna mean to you?**

Vienna is my home. My family and friends are here. The city has shaped me deeply. You can have a very nice life here. And: getting recognition in Vienna is worth more to me than making it in Hollywood.

⑩ **Where can you relax best in Vienna?**

I've been working non-stop for the past 15 years. These days, I prefer to head to the first district with a book and see where things take me.



Virtuoso Violinmakers

(Text)
Johannes LUXNER

(Photos)
Julius HIRTZBERGER

A violinmaking workshop of their own in Vienna – a lifelong dream come true for Zhihong Shang and Johann Song. Born and raised in China, the couple moved to the Austrian capital in the 1980s. Not content with merely making first-class violins of their own, they have also helped a number of Stradivari on their way back to sounding their best.

Zhihong Shang and Johann Song are the perfect example of Vienna's international character and its draw as a city of music. The couple are also proof that music is the most universal and global of all languages: music connects people and transcends all cultural barriers. And sometimes it can give rise to out-of-the-ordinary life stories, as shown by Shang and Song's careers.

Longing for the Music of Europe

A love of music is in the couple's DNA. "We both come from very musical families – my parents sing

and my husband's mother is a concert pianist," Shang reveals, sharing the backstory to the extraordinary journey that life would take them on. Song: "We grew up in China with the classical music of the West and learned Western instruments as young children. First piano, then cello. My wife is a violinist." This early musical influence would have far-reaching consequences many years later: when they met in the late 1970s while studying music in Shanghai (where they also got their first taste of instrument making), the pair's longing for the great venues of classical music became so great that they decided to pack their bags in China and head west. But why Vienna of all places? "My father studied in Vienna for a few years in the late 1940s," Shang says, revealing the family connection to Austria. But before their European adventure could begin, there were still a few hurdles to overcome, above all the journey itself.

Established violinmakers Zhihong Shang and Johann Song came to Vienna 40 years ago. And they also founded a Chinese school.



It takes months to complete an instrument. Selecting the right wood is key.

Trans-Siberian Railway to Vienna

“I came to Vienna at that time by the Trans-Siberian Railway. The trip lasted seven days,” Shang confirms, recalling her 1984 odyssey. Air travel was simply unaffordable at that time. “I would have had to work two years for a plane ticket,” says her husband, who ended up having to stump up for two train tickets: “One for me, the other for my bulky cello,” Song laughs. Once in Vienna, everything happened very quickly. Zhihong Shang had a homemade violin in her luggage, which she used to look for a job. There was no need for lengthy interviews: the quality of the violin spoke for itself. Her husband had a similar experience, his craftsmanship likewise making a stunning impression. Both of them gained a professional foothold in instrument-making workshops in the city within a very short space of time. A period shaped by intensive work and in-depth study of European violinmaking began. “We visited workshops across the continent and started collecting books on violinmaking. That’s



Sometimes the couple repair precious pieces by world-famous violin-makers such as Antonio Stradivari.

the only way you can perfect the craft.” Their collection turned into a small library, which is now in the couple’s own violinmaking workshop. Shang and Song have had their own business since the mid-1990s. Their workshop is located on Wiedner Hauptstrasse in the city’s fourth district. Primarily, the couple are occupied with repair work. And from time to time, highly remarkable violins turn up for them to bring back to their best.

From Stradivari to Guarneri

“We’ve taken in historic violins by Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri II here for



Johann Song doesn’t just make cellos – as a member of an amateur orchestra, he plays them too.

renovation – put simply, violins by the best violinmakers of all time,” Song says with pride as he shares an insight into the range of tasks he and his wife perform. News of the couple’s quality work has spread around the world. “Many of our customers are from the United States.

But we also receive orders from places like India, Thailand and Egypt,” says Song. Explaining why many professional musicians rely on the work of the Viennese violinmaking workshop, he says: “Our clientele knows that the bosses take care of the repairs and overhauls in person here. This builds trust while ensuring consistent quality. It’s very much appreciated.” And while the two have in fact been retired for just under two years, it is clear that for them, violinmaking is a calling and not a profession. Song adds: “That’s what makes it so hard to stop from one day to the next.” What also drives him: “People want to make music. And that’s something I am glad to help with.”

Founders of a Chinese School

But the couple is not just known in Vienna for their violinmaking skills. When their children reached school age, they wanted them to receive professional Chinese lessons. But there was no Chinese school to offer such a service. So the couple decided to take matters into their own hands, founding a Chinese school. What started with eight students is now a Saturday school with around 850 students on its books. Up until his retirement, Johann Song was the school's principal. The additional free time since stepping down comes in handy for him, though. "I play the cello in an orchestra. We have rehearsals at the Wiener Konzerthaus every Wednesday." The Konzerthaus is also one of the couple's favorite Viennese venues, along with the State Opera and Musikverein, where they regularly indulge their passion for music. "I love walking

through Vienna's historic first district. The architecture still inspires me," says Song, waxing lyrical about the Viennese ambience. And if homesickness strikes, there's a proven antidote: "In Vienna, you can now eat excellent Cantonese food. Our favorite place to go is Happy Buddha on Mariahilfer Gürtel, where they cook like in China," Shang reports before adding in the same breath: "When I cook for myself, though, there's also Wiener Schnitzel and roast pork. We love Viennese cuisine."



Perfect sound calls for meticulous craftsmanship: Zhihong Shang and her husband complete every step themselves, which is particularly appreciated by their customers.



Live at

(Text)
Susanna BURGER

Porgy & Bess

Those in the know love the place, but for many it's still an insider tip: Viennese jazz and music club Porgy & Bess. We took in the atmosphere of this legendary club, which has been going for 30 years, at a Zawinul tribute concert. And we got the lowdown on every aspect of the venue behind the scenes with program mastermind and club manager, Christoph Huber.

We're standing at number 11, Riemergasse, in front of Porgy, as the Viennese affectionately refer to Porgy & Bess. The building's Art Nouveau facade does not even hint at the world we are about to enter: inside, stairs lead down into the capital's most deeply jazz-infused cellar, which is widely considered one of Europe's best jazz clubs. And possibly one of its most attractive, too, thanks to its minimalist interior design, offset by plush upholstery and velvet. Red is the dominant color, spreading a feeling of intimacy and coziness. In the stalls, coffeehouse tables create an almost cabaret atmosphere, which continues on the sweeping oval gallery one floor up. Two bars offer everything that could be desired to accompany a live concert – but it's the music that really matters, with the stage front and center. Simple, black, lit in blue – and with the musicians for this evening's performance, packed to bursting, as are the audience spaces.

Photo: © Porgy, Archiv/Rygalyk

Tribute to Zawinul

Tonight's live act brings together the best of Viennese musical talent: the 19-strong big.mdw.band – the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna big band – will perform a program dedicated to Joe Zawinul's (1932–2007) later output, under the title Zawinul 90 – The Syndicate. The Vienna-born keyboardist is celebrated as one of the most influential jazz musicians of the 20th century. And he was living proof that Vienna has more to offer than Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss.

No less than Joe Zawinul's son, Tony, steps onto the stage. Four days earlier he was a special guest at the opening of a new exhibition area at the Vienna Museum of Technology, the Music Lounge (also well worth a visit), which includes instruments used by his father as it tells the story of the era of electronic music in Austria. Now Tony Zawinul shares memories of his father's first performances with an accordion at the local tavern in Oberkirchbach near Vienna, when Tony was still a child (including secretly finishing off the drops left in schnapps glasses), before handing the floor to the big.mdw.band, led by Markus Geiselhart.

Sounds so Good

The band kicks off with Zawinul's Orient Express, live on stage – and the sound is jaw-dropping. Not jaw-droppingly loud, but jaw-droppingly good. Inserted into the shell of the Art Nouveau building's original cellar, the venue is a state-of-the-art mini concert hall with 200 seats and standing room for another 150 people. The Golden Hall of Vienna's Musikverein is considered acoustically ideal for orchestral music – and the same can be said of Porgy & Bess for amplified music. This evening is a celebration of jazz, with young performers

who have a burning passion for the music, and an audience that really appreciates it. Strong grooves take center stage (typical of the Zawinul Syndicate sound), while solos allow individual musicians to shine in the spotlight. For Shadow and Light, the big band is joined by the voices of the music university's ipop vocal ensemble. Now Merci For Me is a highlight (Zawinul's Merci Merci Merci version for the Syndicate). Our impression in brief: a top venue, charming atmosphere, and amazing sound. With the musicians close enough to touch. Merci!



Jazz icon Joe Zawinul (1932–2007) also performed at Porgy & Bess. The Vienna Museum of Technology exhibits original objects used by Joe Zawinul in its Music Lounge.

Photo: © Joe Zawinul Estate

From Erotic Cinema to Jazz Club

Christoph Huber, co-founder and artistic director of Porgy & Bess, told Vienna, Intl. the history of the 30-year-old jazz club in an interview a few days before the concert. It all began with Swiss jazz all-rounder Mathias Rüegg, who in 1993 started inviting internationally renowned jazz groups to play in Vienna at the former Fledermaus Bar. Over time, Porgy & Bess became firmly established on the Austrian and international jazz scene. And at the end of the year 2000, the jazz club found a new and superbly technically equipped venue on Riemergasse.

The location has something of a nefarious history: word has it (the land registry records were lost in a fire) that the building was constructed by the actress Helene Odilon in 1910. Theater shows were hosted in the building at a cabaret stage by the name of Boccacio, with jazz music first played here in the early 1950s, as Huber reveals: an absolute highlight at the Studio 1 jazz club were the so-called Konzertschmäuse – piano four hands sessions on the concert grand with Friedrich Gulda (who lived just up the road, at number 14) and Joe Zawinul.

Hot, sinful, and smoky defined the location from 1953 to 1993, when it was home to the legendary Rondell erotic cinema, which, incidentally, was also Vienna's first cinema to permit smoking. It wasn't until December 2000 that Porgy & Bess moved in. And to complete the circle, in 2003 – half a century after Joe Zawinul last played there – the world-famous jazz musician returned to play three nights at Riemergasse number 11. After that he popped by every so often, when he wasn't too busy at his own Viennese jazz club, Birdland (2004–2008).

30 Years of Jazz and More

The precise definition of jazz is not overly restrictive at Porgy & Bess: alongside jazz music in all its forms, from classic to experimental, electronic music and world music acts are featured, as well as soul and singer-writer nights. Christoph Huber's pluralistic program combines individual musician, country and city portraits with sessions and workshops. He applies a three-level concept: the Austrian scene (Karl Ratzler, Wolfgang Muthspiel, Wolfgang



Porgy & Bess owes its enduring appeal to a high-quality program and an elegant interior.

Photo: © Porgy Archiv/Rygalyk

Puschnig) is well represented, as are European acts (Jean Luc Ponty, Ida Nielsen) and major stars from the States such as saxophonists Branford Marsalis and John Zorn – both of whom are Porgy & Bess fans. Zorn told us: “When I learned that Porgy was celebrating their 30th anniversary in 2023, participating became an imperative. There are only two clubs in the world that I will always agree to perform in – the Village Vanguard in New York and Porgy & Bess in Vienna. It is truly an honor to present the New Masada Quartet in this special venue, for Christoph's 30th anniversary.”

One more tip: almost every concert is broadcast via live stream, with a pay-as-you-wish button. Huber calls this a window on the world, which generates international attention – and inspires viewers to come and visit the club for real.

● Porgy & Bess Jazz & Music Club
Riemergasse 11, 1010 Vienna
www.porgy.at

Daily live program and stream
(except during summer break)

Sound Revolutionary and Universal Artist

(Text)
Andrea ORTMAYER

(Photos)
ARNOLD SCHÖNBERG CENTER

“New music is never beautiful
on first acquaintance.”

Arnold Schoenberg

One of the most influential composers of the 20th century, Arnold Schoenberg transcended the boundaries of traditional tonal music when he struck upon the twelve-tone technique – a new method of composition which would permanently change the world of music. 2024 marks the 150th anniversary of the sound revolutionary and universal artist’s birth.

Arnold Schoenberg, Los Angeles, 1940

Some love his music, but for others it’s less easy on the ear and takes a lot of getting used to. His compositions caused genuine uproar at the time, but today Arnold Schoenberg is widely respected and held aloft as an icon of modernist music.

Born to Jewish parents in Vienna on September 13, 1874, his musical career got off to a decidedly inauspicious start. Largely self-taught, Schoenberg composed his first significant work, a tone poem for a string sextet entitled *Transfigured Night*, in 1899. To this day, it remains one of his most-performed pieces.

While his early work reveals clear influences from various composers including Richard Wagner and Johannes Brahms, as well as his contemporary

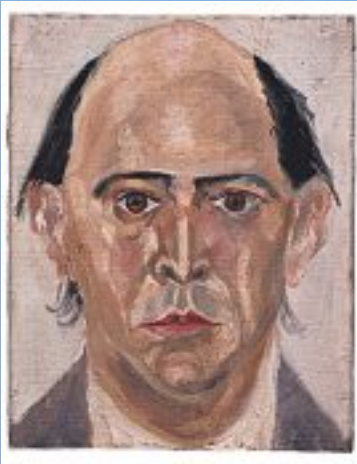
Richard Strauss, Schoenberg gradually developed a new atonal language of his own which marked a departure from traditional major-minor tonality. The move was to shape the works of his expressionist phase. During these years, he penned a number of major compositions, including his first two string quartets and *Chamber Symphony No. 1*. The premieres of these works were mired in scandal. So much so, in fact, that the concert he conducted at the Musikverein on March 31, 1913, went down in history as the *Watschenkonzert* (slap concert). Appalled by the new music, some members of the audience actually came to blows and the performance had to be abandoned.



Twelve-Tone Composition

But Schoenberg refused to be swayed by public reaction or establishment criticism. He sought ways to organize the free-tonal form of his works according to logical criteria, ultimately striking upon his twelve-tone technique in the early 1920s. This revolutionary method of composition saw all twelve notes of the chromatic scale (i.e. a full sequence of twelve semitones within an octave) serve equally in a fixed order – in relation only with one another – to provide a point of departure for the new work. The composer can weave the sequence of notes in the twelve-tone order into the score both horizontally and vertically and deploy them in different contexts. The outcome is a complex soundscape. Schoenberg's trailblazing compositional style saw him fêted as the founder of twelve-tone music and had an enduring influence on 20th-century music.

His compositions broke free of traditional musical structures. His music challenged listeners,



Arnold Schoenberg: Self-Portrait, ca. 1910

whisking them away to far-off worlds of sound. Schoenberg viewed music as a form of personal expression and a way to convey deep emotions and feelings. He wanted to create not only beauty of sound, but also establish a connection between composer, performer and listener.



Arnold Schoenberg, Los Angeles, 1937

Fear of the Number 13

It was not just Schoenberg's music that attracted scandal, but his private life too. His first wife Mathilde cheated on him with his friend, the painter Richard Gerstl. Gerstl would go on to commit suicide after Mathilde returned to Schoenberg in 1908.

1933 brought a watershed moment in Arnold Schoenberg's life both professionally and on a personal level. The Nazis' rise to power drove him – as someone who had already been exposed to anti-Semitism in the 1920s – to emigrate in May 1933. In 1934, he eventually settled in Los Angeles with his second wife Gertrud Kolisch and his daughter Nuria, taking up residence in a house where his son Ron still lives with his wife Barbara today.

Schoenberg, who reportedly suffered from triskaidekaphobia – the fear of the number 13 – was born on September 13, 1874. And, by a quirk of fate, he died on Friday, July 13, 1951, at the age of 76. Even in the last few years of his life he was still creating important works, chief among them *A Survivor from Warsaw*, a cantata written in tribute to victims of the Holocaust.

Universal Artist

Arnold Schoenberg also gained a reputation as an influential teacher and mentor. Many of his students became important composers in their own right, helping to spread his ideas to new audiences. Among his best-known pupils are Alban Berg and Anton Webern, who were also leading lights of the Second Viennese School. With them, Schoenberg established a new era in music history whose compositions were defined by atonality. This movement strove for a musical freedom that broke the shackles of traditional tonal structures.

Schoenberg's artistic expression went beyond music and followed his vision of a *Gesamtkunstwerk* or total work of art. Not just a composer, he was also a music theorist, writer, inventor and a talented painter who created a series of expressionist paintings. At Wassily Kandinsky's invitation, Schoenberg exhibited four of his works at the Blauer Reiter group's inaugural exhibition in Munich in 1911–12. He was also an inspired inventor who created, among other things, different twelve-tone slide rules as well as a notoriously difficult four-player chess variant called Coalition Chess.

Arnold Schoenberg: Wind Quintet, op. 26 –
Twelve-tone slide rule made by Schoenberg himself

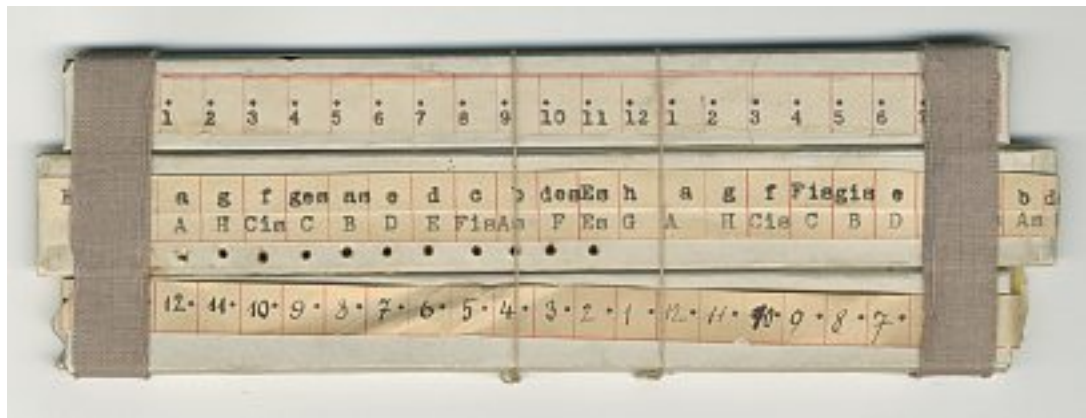
Paradise for Schoenberg Fans

Instructions for Schoenberg's take on the game of chess can be found on the Arnold Schönberg Center website. The center, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2023, manages the famous Viennese modernist composer's estate. The facility's archives contain some 20,000 pages of musical and text manuscripts, as well as letters, diaries, concert programs, instruments, and personal items. The 3,500 photographs in the collection include Man Ray's striking portrait of Schoenberg, as well as images of the great composer alongside Alban Berg, Anton Webern, Albert Einstein, Charlie Chaplin and Alma Mahler. The Arnold Schönberg Center also features a faithful replica of his Los Angeles study.

A vibrant cultural venue, the center regularly hosts concerts, lectures, symposiums and exhibitions designed to share insights into Schoenberg's life and work with a wider audience.

The 150th anniversary of his birth in 2024 will celebrate not only his pioneering contributions to music, but also his tireless efforts to promote art in all its rich variety.

- Arnold Schönberg Center
Zaunergasse 1–3, 1030 Vienna
www.schoenberg.at
- Exhibitions:
Jan 17–May 10, 2024
Arnold Schoenberg & Karl Kraus
May 29, 2024–Feb 14, 2025
Hearing love with Schoenberg
- All 150 Years of Schoenberg events at:
www.schoenberg150.at
events.vienna.info



ES LÄUFT
MODENSCHAU
WOCHENSCHAU
BEIPROGRAMM
HAUPTFILM

Fashion, Design & Architecture

Lofty new perspectives on fashion and design which tempt visitors into accommodations that were never actually meant to function as living spaces.

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Ten Questions for Lena Hoschek

Katy Perry and Dita Von Teese are among the fashion designer's clients. A conversation about inspiration and Viennese attitudes to fashion.

60

The Neighborhood as Lobby

At Vienna's Grätzlhotels, guests bed down in former business premises. The local neighborhood plays the role of a living room.

64

Made in Vienna

World-famous designs from Vienna from the 1850s to the present day. A journey through time.

72

A Change of Perspective

Vienna's diversity and openness is also reflected in its places of worship and their architecture. We look at four of them from an entirely new angle.



Ten Questions for *Lena Hoschek*

(Interview)
Susanne KAPELLER

(Photo)
Michael ZAHNSCHIRM

Born in Graz, Lena Hoschek attended Vienna's Hetzendorf Fashion School, and the Austrian capital has been the center of her life for many years. Attaching great importance to craftsmanship in her fashion, she highlights the female form, drawing inspiration from the silhouettes of the 1950s. Something that has even caught the eye of various stars, including Katy Perry and Dita Von Teese.

Lena Hoschek
Flagshipstore

Seilergasse 16
1010 Vienna
www.lenahoschek.com

① **You prefer to be called a dressmaker rather than a designer. Why?**

For me, everything hinges on craftsmanship and tailoring. And this automatically creates its own signature, just as it does with designers.

② **How did you get involved in fashion?**

Even as a small child I just loved painting outfits.

③ **What is it about Vienna that inspires your work?**

My roots are in Styria, but my cultural roots are in Vienna. Vienna is a highly cultivated melting pot, a cosmopolitan city that offers the highest quality of life.

④ **Which famous person would you like to dress?**

I have already had two dreams come true. Dressing Dita Von Teese was a big dream of mine. And Queen Máxima of the Netherlands wearing my clothes was a great honor, because you can't just give gifts to royals – they actually have to buy their own clothes.

⑤ **What is your favorite part of town?**

The first district is buzzing with life and full of great stores. My flagship store is also located here. There are still lots of beautiful old store fronts between Graben and Kohlmarkt.

⑥ **What is typically Viennese for you?**

The Altmann & Kühne store. It is one of my favorite shops. I like to buy their confectionary as a special gift, or when I just want to treat myself.

⑦ **Who is your role model?**

Me. The best formula is to pursue your own dreams and make them come true instead of imitating someone else.

⑧ **Vienna and fashion: are the Viennese fashionable?**

People from abroad attach much more importance to fashion. The Viennese look is very basic and underdressed, they are afraid to stand out.

⑨ **Where does your passion for the style of the 1950s come from?**

From corset fashion that, historically speaking, goes much further back than that. A woman with a waist is very sexy. I find that hourglass figure wildly alluring.

⑩ **What do you wear privately? Is there a jeans-wearing version of Lena Hoschek?**

I like to wear denim from my own collection. Today I'm wearing a denim dungaree dress and cognac lace-up ankle boots. I must admit, though, that I only own a single pair of sneakers, and I use them for running.



The Neighborhood as Lobby

Grätzlhotels open up unique access to everyday life in Vienna – after all, these stylish apartments used to be business premises. Something that is still very much in evidence to this day. Our tour of Vienna’s Grätzel – the term used for the capital’s local neighborhoods – starts at the accommodation itself.

No one is about to try and argue that St. Stephen’s Cathedral, Schönbrunn Palace, the Hofburg and all the other big names are not part of a successful trip to Vienna. But the city has so much more to offer. It’s also things like sitting in a cozy coffeehouse, watching life play out on the street, that friendly encounter at a market stall, those independent stores that are run with such passion. It’s the atmosphere of a place that people are searching for more and more. All of this can be found in the numerous different Grätzel scattered throughout Vienna. Each has its own attractions, its own demographic, its own character and charm.



Hotel or hardware store? Both, actually.

Photo: © Gerald Berghammer

And this is precisely what the concept behind the Grätzlhotel is looking to bring to life. Empty premises that once were used by businesses are converted into apartments with direct access to the local neighborhood. And elements of the existing fit-outs are consciously retained. In many cases, the interior is only separated from the street by the original storefront. “There’s a lot resting on this pane of glass,” explains Theresia Kohlmayr, describing what is in fact a shop window in reverse. She is the managing director of Grätzlhotel and its umbrella company Urbanauts. “Our guests become observers of the city on equal terms. After all, the seats right by the window are always the

most sought-after spots in a coffeehouse.” The suites are all situated at street level. So it’s not just the outside atmosphere that’s unique, but the inside too. People stroll past carrying their shopping, the tram stops right in front of the window, and there are people enjoying a meal outside the restaurant on the other side of the road. But there’s no need to worry about a lack of privacy, though: getting away from it all is always possible thanks to various noise protection measures and physical screening devices. So it’s down to the individual guest to decide the extent to which – and when – they want to lift that curtain to the city.



A former workshop turned into a bedroom:
the lampshade maker suite.

Photo: © Heidrun Henke

Second Life

The decor of each of the 28 suites is as unique as the Grätzl they are located in. Echoes of the former business are still tangible. At the Lampenschirmmacherin (lampshade maker) apartment near Karmelitermarkt in the second district, lots of lights – some of them almost throwbacks – illuminate the loft. They continued to be made in these premises until just a few years ago. Meanwhile at the Trafikant (tobacconist's) apartment near the Belvedere Palace, the iconic Tabak lettering is up on the wall opposite the bed. And some facades still look just like they used to. Such as that of the Eisenwarenhändler (hardware store owner) with its classic shop window including entrance portal. Or the two apartments named Pilotin (female pilot) and Kapitän (captain) in a former travel agency in the Servitenviertel – the full-width shop window (including matching signage) is still in place. It's all about repurposing and the question of what's worth preserving, as Kohlmayr puts it.

Interconnectedness with the city is a core element behind the concept. Guests can go out onto the street without an elevator, without stairs, without a lobby – and without any detours. With all its restaurants, coffeehouses, bakeries, stores and art spaces, the local neighborhood itself functions as the lobby. Anyone who truly embraces the model will start to feel like a temporary Viennese resident in no time at all. A digital concierge recommends what to go and see using the free bikes included in the Grätzlhotel experience. But people are also an important part of the neighborhood. And life at the local level proves that Vienna is not as unfriendly as is often claimed. All the best insider tips and favorite locations are revealed by the Viennese themselves.

Quality Not Quantity

There was a conscious decision to select locations outside Vienna's historic first district for all of the apartments. The message being that there is also plenty to see away from the established tourist centers. The colorful Karmelitermarkt with the Jewish quarter around it, the fourth district with the Belvedere Palace nearby, the picturesque Servitenviertel with its Gallic flair and the charming Meidlinger Markt in a working class district with



From tobacconist's to non-smoking room.

Photo: © Monika Nguyen

a wide range of stores and a diverse population. All neighborhoods where the concept has already taken root. More accommodations are planned: after all, Vienna has more than enough beautiful quarters to go round.

The first Grätzlhotel was created as a side hustle while Kohlmayr was still studying. "I've always loved playing host," says Kohlmayr, who grew up in a family hotel in the province of Salzburg. In the meantime, Urbanauts has turned into a highly successful and thriving tourism company. In the summer, Urbanauts Studios opened 14 apartments in what used to be the Interkulttheater in Vienna's sixth district. It is also about using urban spaces that have become surplus to requirements – integrating new elements into existing ones and preserving history in the process.

The fact that the concept of Urbanauts blurs the boundaries between visitors and Viennese residents, as well as the old and new, is a nice bonus. Opposites really do attract in Vienna. Moving forward and watching the world go by, worldliness and approachability, dynamism and coziness exist in easy symbiosis. And that's exactly the way it should be.

● www.graetzlhotel.com

Made *in Vienna*

(Text)
Susanne KAPELLER

Viennese design has a long tradition. It had its heyday around 1900, but there is much more to it than Jugendstil (Art Nouveau) and the Wiener Werkstätte collective. Many of the pieces that started life in the city would go on to conquer the world thanks to their revolutionary design language. We set off on a journey back in time, running the rule over the city's design history via seven seminal design objects.

Viennese Coffeehouse Chair (1859)

by Thonet



The most famous chair in the world, Thonet chair No. 14, is inextricably linked with Viennese coffeehouse culture. With a backrest comprising just two curved pieces of wood, it is a classic example of the furniture produced by bentwood specialists Thonet, then based in Vienna. The pioneering use of steam by Michael Thonet (1796–1871) to bend solid wood revolutionized the world of furniture production. What is now taken as read at Ikea was actually invented by Thonet back in 1859: the coffeehouse chairs could be packed flat and shipped to addresses around the world in just six pieces. Today, the chair is among the most widely produced items of seating furniture in the world and goes by the name of Number 214.

→ www.thonet.de

Wiener Werkstätte Logo (1903)

by Koloman Moser



Koloman Moser (1868–1918) co-founded the Wiener Werkstätte in 1903. An incredible designer, he also had a special talent for typography and commercial art. In today's parlance he would probably be known as a graphic designer. Corporate design occupied his thoughts at a time before the term even existed. He also came up with the brand design for Wiener Werkstätte, creating an extremely successful corporate identity in the process. Featuring a double W, the logo adorned stores from Vienna to Zurich and Berlin to New York, also featuring on catalogs, stationery and packaging material. The WW brand acquired legendary status.

Viennese Cube Clock (1907)



The Viennese cube clock shows just how the design of everyday objects can shape the look and feel of a city. Part of the Viennese cityscape since 1907, the timeless yet striking design of the capital's public clocks elevated them to landmark status. A distinctive bevelled-corner octagon with Normalzeit (standard time) lettering, they are considered modernist icons. Standard time meant Greenwich Mean Time, which was introduced in 1910. Previously there were different time zones across the monarchy. Incidentally, the cube clock was also the inspiration for the blue subway cubes. Visible from afar, they mark the entrances to the city's subway stations. The underlying idea was that public street furniture should have certain shared design characteristics.

Augarten Melon Service (1929)

by Josef Hoffmann



Josef Hoffmann (1870–1956), like Koloman Moser a co-founder of the Wiener Werkstätte, designed a mocha service for Augarten Porzellan in 1929 that helped the collective on its way to global prominence. Cups and saucers are designed as flowers, while the jugs and sugar bowls are reminiscent of melons and pumpkins. Unmistakable thanks to their characteristic brightly-colored stripes, the pieces in the service are popular collectibles all over the world. The architect Hoffmann struck upon a true design classic through his appreciation of colors and shapes. Founded in 1718, Porzellanmanufaktur Augarten is Europe's second-oldest porcelain manufactory and continues to hand-produce its wares to this day.

→ www.augarten.com

Forte Typeface (1950s)

by Karl Reissberger



Millions of people around the world will be familiar with this typeface, but what hardly anyone knows is that it was the work of the Austrian graphic designer Karl Reissberger in post-war Vienna. From the 1960s, it was used primarily in German-speaking countries for advertisements, newspaper titles, and movie posters. In the mid-1990s, the Forte font family was added to the Microsoft Office software suite. The special 1950s-style font can also be found on numerous storefronts around the world. There is even a Finding Forte project which aims to posthumously highlight Reissberger's work as a graphic designer.

→ findingforte.global

Werkstätte Carl Auböck Bookend (1952)



The Werkstätte Carl Auböck workshop was founded in 1912. Fascinated by the early Bauhaus aesthetic, Carl Auböck II, son of the company's founder, set to work designing the bronze figures and objects that the metal workshop is known for, taking it – and the genre of Viennese bronzes – into the modern age. Carl Auböck III later became acquainted with mid-century design in the United States and would design numerous functional art objects such as bookends, paperweights and ashtrays. Still made in a workshop in the seventh district today, the objects are sought-after collector's items, especially in the USA and Japan. Pieces of furniture such as the tree table became design classics.

→ www.carlauboeck.at

Eye patch by AND_i (2009)



Goldsmith and sculptor Andreas Eberharter has made a name for himself on the international stage with his object-like jewelry pieces. In 2001, he founded his label AND_i. Eberharter gained a lot of attention in 2009 when his unique eye patches were featured in a fashion show by designer Thierry Mugler. After that, things continued to go from strength to strength, with Eberharter celebrating a number of major coups along the way: his eye patch was featured in Lady Gaga's video for her hit song Paparazzi. Stars including Milla Jovovich and Beyoncé are also among his fans. AND_i's designs are characterized by their boldness and clarity.

→ www.and-i.com

A Change of Perspective

Vienna's cityscape is not only defined by Baroque palaces, grand apartment buildings and examples of Art Nouveau architecture, but by places of worship from different eras, too. The Votive Church, the Synagogue, the Islamic Center and, of course, St. Stephen's Cathedral all represent Vienna's openness, as well as its religious, cultural and architectural diversity. Perfect subjects for a tour, only this time from a completely new perspective.



Towering 99 meters skywards, the Votive Church is the second-largest church in the city after St. Stephen's Cathedral.

Votive Church

Rooseveltplatz 8, 1090 Vienna
www.votivkirche.at

As a display of gratitude that his brother Emperor Franz Joseph's life was spared in a knife attack, Ferdinand Maximilian (later Emperor of Mexico) commissioned the Votive Church. After 23 years of construction, the church was consecrated on April 24, 1879 – Emperor Franz Joseph and Empress Elisabeth's silver wedding anniversary. Almost 150 years down the line, it has taken nearly the same length of time to renovate. From 2001 until April 2023 the Votive Church was shrouded in scaffolding. But now it can finally be admired again in its full glory.

Built in the French cathedral style, this triple-nave neo-Gothic basilica is one of the most important European historicist buildings of all. In fact, the Votive Church is considered one of the most important religious buildings in the world. Due to its location on the Ringstrasse boulevard, it is sometimes referred to as the Ringstrasse Cathedral. Which is perhaps why people sometimes mix it up with St. Stephen's Cathedral. The difference is quite simple though: unlike St. Stephen's Cathedral (which is a truly Gothic building), the neo-Gothic Votive Church has two completed towers of the same height. Its architect Heinrich Ferstel pulled out all the stops when it came to the construction, even financing its completion with the help of a building grant of 150,000 gulden from Vienna City Council.



Like all synagogues, the one in Vienna has a spacious interior where services are held. The Torah shrine, where the Torah scroll is kept, always faces east.

Synagogue

Seitenstettengasse 4, 1010 Vienna
www.ikg-wien.at

Guided tours can be booked online
via InfoPoint Jewish Vienna:
www.jewishinfopoint.at

The Stadttempel is considered the main synagogue of Vienna and was built according to plans drawn up by the seminal Biedermeier architect Josef Kornhäusel and inaugurated in April 1826. As only Catholic places of worship were allowed to be built directly next to the street at the time, the synagogue was hidden in a residential building. As a result, it was the only one of Vienna's Jewish prayer houses and synagogues to survive the November Pogrom on November 9, 1938.

At the end of 2002, a memorial to Jewish victims of the Shoah was unveiled in the Synagogue's vestibule. It commemorates the 65,000 Austrian Jews murdered during the Holocaust, with their names engraved on revolving slates. In the center of the memorial, which was designed by architect Thomas Feiger, a broken granite column symbolizes Vienna's Jewish community, which was destroyed by the Nazis in 1938.

In their capacity as active members of the Jewish community of Vienna, InfoPoint Jewish Vienna guides give an exclusive insight into the interior of the synagogue as well as Jewish Vienna past and present.



A lengthy vista opens up from the minaret, and from the skies above.
At the point where the heavens meet the earth, there is the skyline of the Danube City:
Danube Tower, Vienna International Centre and DC Tower.

Vienna Islamic Centre

Am Bruckhaufen 3, 1210 Vienna
en.izwien.at

The word “mosque” is derived from the Arabic “masjid”, which in its original form means “place of prostration (for prayer)”. Considered traditionally Ottoman, the minaret-and-dome construction style has shaped the appearance of mosques throughout Europe for many years.

The dome of the Vienna Islamic Centre in Vienna measures 20 meters across, forming the ceiling of the large prayer room. 32 meters high, the

minaret is actually designed for the call to prayer, but it is hardly ever used in Vienna. The interior is simple, comprising the mihrab (the prayer niche facing Mecca) and a raised prayer area. A seven-story chandelier hangs from the ceiling, while geometric patterns and Arabic calligraphy adorn the entryway.

Besides the mosque, the Islamic Centre includes facilities for the cultivation of Islamic culture in Vienna. The center is located a short distance from the Neue Donau subway station (U6), right next to the idyllic recreation zone of the same name.

St. Stephen's Cathedral

Stephansplatz, 1010 Vienna
www.stephanskirche.at

It is Vienna's key landmark, usually the first port of call for visitors to the city, and the highest church in Austria. Its earliest documented mention goes all the way back to the 12th century. And obviously St. Stephen's Cathedral has seen a lot since then. Including Mozart's wedding, Antonio Vivaldi's funeral and a young Joseph Haydn as a chorister. Up to six million people visit it every year.

St. Stephen's Cathedral is 110 meters long, 136.4 meters high and 34.2 meters wide. But why are these numbers so arbitrary? Converted to feet, the dimensions immediately make much more

sense: 333 feet is the length and 444 feet is the highest point of the dome – all divisible by 37. A coincidence? Hardly. Oh yes, and if we count seven times seven times seven, the result is 343 – precisely the number of steps that lead up to the turret room in the south tower, which is the higher of the cathedral's two towers.

This time, however, we're showing the view from the 68-meter north tower, construction of which came to an abrupt halt in 1511. There were various reasons for this, including the wider impact of the Reformation, as well as the threat of the Turkish siege, which brought about a shift in investment priorities and saw money diverted to strengthening the city's fortifications instead.



Tipping the scales at over 20 tons, the Pummerin hangs in the north tower. Austria's most famous and heaviest church bell has rung in the new year on every New Year's Eve since 1952/1953. Looking down, we can see the roof of the stonemasons' lodge at St. Stephen's.

Food & Drink

After several tequilas, Sigmund Freud is baked, and drinks from Vienna are served with savory bread rolls at anything but a snail's pace.

78

Ten Questions for Isabella Lombardo

The multi-award-winning bartender talks about perfect drinks and Sigmund Freud – who she would love to serve tequila to.

80

Breaded and Fried

Strudel or schnitzel? Both, probably. Star chef Lukas Mraz is definitely Hungry for More on our food tour of Vienna.

86

Vienna by the Glass

Vienna is not just a hotbed of schnitzel frying and apple strudel baking, it's also streets ahead when it comes to producing outstanding drinks. Cheers, or "Prost" as we say!

90

City Bites

Viennese street food beyond its sausage stands: savory rolls, shredded pancakes to go and Viennese escargots.



HENDRICK'S
Flora Adona
GIN

Ten Questions for *Isabella Lombardo*

(Interview)
Andrea ORTMAYER

(Photo)
ISABELLA LOMBARDO

“Drinks are like emotions. There’s the right drink for every situation,” says Isabella Lombardo, bartender and hospitality aficionado. The multi-award-winning and creative barkeeper manages the popular Lvdwig Bar at the Hotel Beethoven on Vienna’s Naschmarkt.

LVDWIG – die Bar an der Wien

Hotel Beethoven Wien
Papagenogasse 6
1060 Vienna

www.lvdwig.bar
Tue–Thu 17:00–01:00
Fri, Sat 17:00–02:00

- ① **How did you get involved in barkeeping?**
I wanted to be financially independent at a very young age, and worked in the restaurant trade as a teenager. After training as a bartender, I won a few competitions straight out of the gate and that opened the door to my dream job.
- ② **What did you want to be growing up?**
Pilot, lawyer ... but preferably a psychiatrist.
- ③ **What is it that constitutes a good bar for you?**
The people who work in the bar – their motivation, intuition and a good feeling for their patrons. Things like a pleasant ambience, optimal lighting, good music and cool drinks also count.
- ④ **Lvdwig Bar is special because ... ?**
... it is a home-from-home for local Viennese residents. Although Lvdwig Bar is a hotel bar, 80% of our guests come from Vienna as well as many from the hotels in the area. Barbara Ludwig, the owner of the Hotel Beethoven, and I have one thing in common: we are both hosts with a passion and just love to make our guests happy.
- ⑤ **Your favorite drink or cocktail?**
The highest quality champagne and tequila.
- ⑥ **What drink or cocktail do you associate with Vienna?**
Espresso Martini comprising vodka, coffee liqueur and espresso.
- ⑦ **Which famous Viennese personality would you like to serve a drink to and which drink would it be?**
I would like to serve Sigmund Freud enough excellent tequila and then ask him on his couch about how the interpretation of dreams revealed itself to him and how he developed psychoanalysis.
- ⑧ **Where can you meet Isabella Lombardo in private?**
I love the authentic Maxingstüberl in the thirteenth district which serves outstanding, down-to-earth home cooking, as well as the excellent Apulian cuisine at A' Frisella in the first district.
- ⑨ **Do you have a favorite spot in Vienna?**
I'm a city girl and love the first district ... especially Michaelerplatz at night.
- ⑩ **What do you do when your friends come to visit?**
Go for a ride on a horse-drawn carriage through the first district with a bottle of champagne, an evening at a rustic Heuriger wine tavern or in the beer garden of the Schweizerhaus.

Breaded and Fried

(Text)
Karoline KNEZEVIC

(Photos)
Unit/Thomas SCHARF



Viennese cuisine is famous for its deep fried treats and oven baked delicacies. In a whistlestop foodie tour of the city, star chef par excellence Lukas Mraz takes a look at the special features of these two key categories in the culinary canon, revealing the best places to savor them and taking a look at some of the overlaps between them.



Hungry for Vienna with Hungry for More

Hungry for More is the name of our new video series on YouTube, in which we invite people all over the world to savor the flavor of Vienna while getting a taste of the Viennese lifestyle. Accompanied by Lukas Mraz, head chef at two-Michelin-starred restaurant Mraz & Sohn, we set off on a gourmet tour of the city. The topic du jour: strudel.

The strudel has a long tradition in Vienna, but – like so many other examples of Viennese cuisine – it actually originates somewhere else entirely. A remnant of the Second Siege of Vienna (1683), sweet and savory versions are a must for any self-respecting Viennese cookbook. Today, the strudels in Vienna are usually sweet. Apple strudel (with or without vanilla sauce) can be found on the menu at most places that serve traditional Viennese cuisine – but the strudel at Meierei im Stadtpark is in a class of its own.

It's good that Magda Mayr got everything ready. The one o'clock strudel has to be ready on time. Patrons even order days in advance – the end piece is especially popular, she reveals as she uses a serrated knife to cut the still-hot apple strudel into six pieces. It's two minutes to one.

Lukas Mraz was invited to lend a hand in the kitchen and get the one o'clock strudel ready alongside cook Magdalena Mayr. From the moment the star chef watched the strudel baker pull the strudel dough, it was clear that the session was going to be anything but conventional when he asked: "Can anything be turned into a strudel, actually?"

Yes. It can. And that's exactly what Lukas Mraz does. The resulting strudel containing melon cucumbers, apple, sweet chili sauce, sriracha, ginger, lime, rum, cinnamon, cardamom and barberries is proof of that. The barberries replace the raisins used in the original recipe, but are optional in either case – Viennese opinions differ on the question of whether strudel should have raisins in it or not: some love them, others not so much. Mraz loves raisins. When it comes down to it, as a chef he loves most foods and ingredients, especially the little things that tend to get overlooked. Just like the Meierei's banana milk – so simple, yet so wonderful.



BEYOND SCHNITZEL



From Baking to Frying

Deep-fried breaded meat and vegetables are an integral part of Viennese cuisine. Wiener Schnitzel is a case in point. Flour, eggs, breadcrumbs – in that order. In German the arrangement of bowls filled with coating ingredients is elegantly termed “Panierstraße”. In English, we know this as the breading line – a definitive one-way journey. Except when the contents have a tendency to get a bit runny (as with baked cheese, for example) – then it comes to another round of egg and breadcrumbs.



After that, it’s slipped into hot fat. At Gasthaus Heidinger, father Robert and son Alex are in the kitchen. Here, they only use pork lard to fry their schnitzels. In contrast to oil, it stops the deep-fried goods from turning out greasy.

The Heidingers even serve fried goulash. Far from being some hip and modern new interpretation of goulash, it was something that Robert Heidinger’s grandma Leopoldine would regularly make 50 years ago. Simply to use up leftovers – or as we like to think of it today: living sustainably.

PANIERSTRASSE



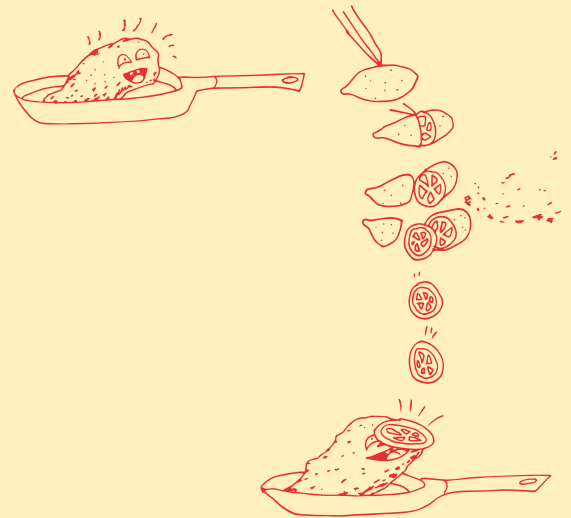


The recipe has remained almost unchanged to this day. Making deep fried goulash is a two-day process. One to cook the goulash. And on the second, it is simmered on a low heat for about five hours. The outcome is concentrated flavor and tender meat in a fine breadcrumb coating.

The fried food section of the menu at Gasthaus Heidinger caters to every deep-fried desire. Lukas Mraz orders one of everything right away: fried goulash, a special Fledermaus butcher's cut, salted pork, old Viennese Backfleisch, cordon bleu and, of course, veal and pork Wiener Schnitzels.

"As a rule, I prefer pork schnitzel, it's just juicier and somehow more authentic," Mraz says. Pork is also used for the cordon bleu – at Heidinger it is filled with G'selchtes (brined, smoked pork) and edam cheese. A good cordon bleu will keep its shape through breading alone, so using any other little tricks to hold it together is a definite no-no.

Lukas Mraz has company on his culinary tour today – from Elif Oskan. The two met years ago at a cooking event and have been close friends ever since. A Swiss cook with Turkish roots, Elif runs Gül, her restaurant in Zurich. However, she did not expect such a concentrated selection of fried Viennese delicacies. As a pâtissière, she is particularly taken with the perfect thin layers of the Heidinger cordon bleu. In Switzerland, cordon



bleus are more like a roulade stuffed with lashings of cheese. Elif Oskan says she's in deep-frying heaven. Lukas Mraz quickly brings her back to reality, reminding her "we've still got a lot to get through here". The star chef loves schnitzel, but he prefers to leave the preparation to someone else.





HUNGRY FOR MORE VIENNA

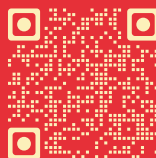
As you can see, there are almost no limits (except for the sequence in which the breading is done) when preparing deep fried dishes. Reznicek is another place for breading and frying. The fine crumb coating brings out the sweet and sour note of pickled asparagus particularly well – an experiment created especially for Lukas Mraz by chef Julian Lechner. Together with sommelier Simon Schubert, he took over the establishment in 2022. The menu is a bit more modern. So instead of the Austrian “Backhendl” they call it “fried chicken” – but it’s still the same principle. A true culinary delight.

Vegetables are always on the chef’s ever-changing recommendation menu. Oyster mushrooms and even green beans. Fried in sunflower oil to keep it vegetarian. But brains, kidneys, liver and pig’s head are also regular fixtures, as Reznicek continues to breathe new life into traditional Viennese offal cuisine.



Subscribe to our YouTube channel to watch all episodes of Hungry for More.

youtube.com/vienna



Addresses:

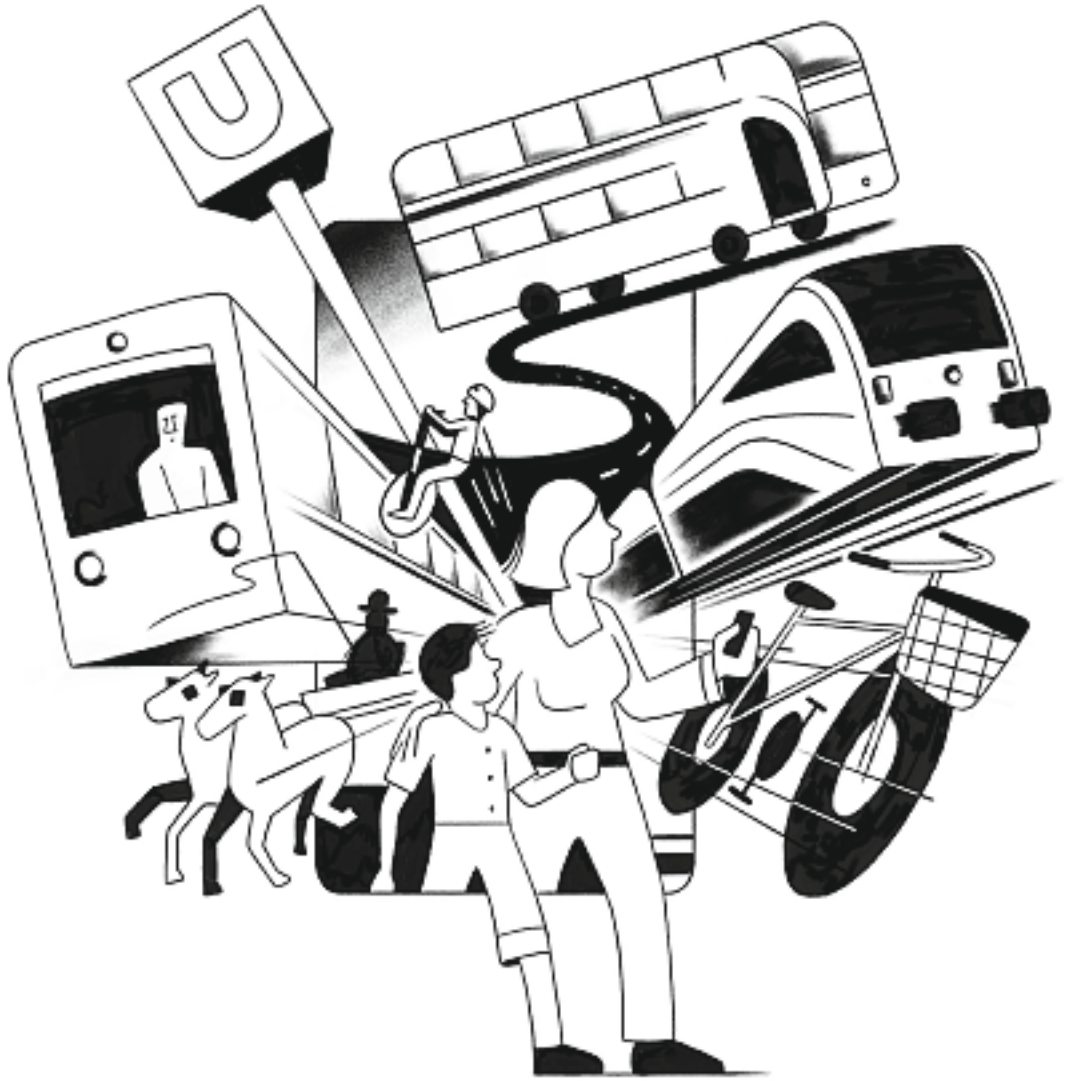
● Mraz & Sohn
Wallensteinstrasse 59, 1200 Vienna
www.mrazundsohn.at

● Meierei im Stadtpark
Am Heumarkt 2A, 1030 Vienna
www.steirereck.at/meierei

● Gasthaus Heidinger
Selzergasse 38, 1150 Vienna
www.heidingers.at

● Reznicek
Reznicekgasse 10, 1090 Vienna
www.reznicek.co.at

C /
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viennacitycard.at

(Text)
Maria SCHALLER

Vienna by the Glass

(Illustrations)
Francesco CICCOLELLA

Vienna tastes good, it's as simple as that. The whole world loves Wiener Schnitzel and Viennese coffee. But the city also has a surprising variety of delicious drinks to its credit.

All over Vienna, fine drops are pressed, distilled, brewed, blended and, of course, tasted. Savor drinks made in Vienna, and a cocktail created exclusively for Vienna, Intl.

Cheers, or "Prost", as we say!

Viennese Wine

Vienna's calling card – and the best known and the most popular beverage for many. The ancient Celts and Romans are reputed to have planted vineyards here. And today, Vienna is the only capital city in the world with extensive vineyards within the city limits. Its 600 hectares of land under vine produce around 2.5 million liters of wine each year. Incidentally, 80% of this is given over to white wine. Particularly popular varieties: Grüner Veltliner, Riesling, Pinot Blanc, Chardonnay, and a real specialty: the Wiener Gemischter Satz. This wine is composed of at least three grape varieties that are grown, harvested, and turned into wine together. Once seen as something of a poor cousin to the other varieties, this specialty is now DAC classified and a bearer of the prestigious Presidio seal.

About half of the wine comes from the hilly northwest of the city, with the remainder sourced



from traditional winegrowing areas north of the Danube and in the south of Vienna. By the way, the capital's smallest vineyard can be found right in the heart of the city, on Schwarzenbergplatz. But where is Viennese wine best enjoyed? Where it is grown, of course – in any of the roughly one hundred Heuriger wine taverns in the city that serve wine from their own vineyards. Here, you can also enjoy cold and hot culinary specialties in a convivial rustic ambience. A post-meal Stamperl, i.e. a shot of schnapps, can also be ordered as a digestif if required. Mostly different kinds of fruit schnapps. Anyone looking for a particularly refreshing option – whether at a wine tavern or elsewhere – should ask for a “Weisser Spritzer”, which is half white wine, half carbonated water. A drink that is as much a part of the look and feel of Vienna as St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Giant Ferris Wheel.

Increasingly popular, juice from freshly harvested and pressed grapes provides a great non-alcoholic option. In fact, there is a clear trend towards premium-quality grape juice, with Vienna being the first Austrian province to introduce a quality seal for the drink. Excellent Viennese Grape Juice – as determined by expert juries – only contains grapes from Viennese vineyards.



Storm

As summer draws to a close, storm season begins in Vienna. But don't worry: the skies are not about to cloud over, because storm is grape juice that has just begun to ferment, right on the cusp of turning into wine. Known here as Sturm, in Germany it is simply called Neuer Wein. Available in white, red and rosé, Sturm must have at least one percent alcohol by volume. An autumnal stroll through Vienna's vineyards soon reveals that almost all of the wine taverns serve Sturm. And even in the city center, it can be found on just about every corner. A small pointer when it comes to storm-drinking etiquette: it should be held in the left hand, and toasted with “Mahlzeit!” instead of “Prost”, without clinking glasses.



Gin

A few years ago, gin started to conquer bars and living rooms all over the world. And interest in this clear spirit, made from juniper berries and infused with fragrant botanicals, remains undiminished in Vienna, too. But gin is not only drunk in the city; it is also made here. More and more distilleries are springing up all the time. Klimt and other familiar motifs adorn the bottles of Wien Gin. Vienna Craft Distillery and Munakra Gin have also made a name for themselves. And a short time ago, Vienna Distiller started offering tastings at a particularly prestigious location: the Spanish Riding School. Vienna is also home to recent award winner Alexandra Ghuneim, who runs the HabibiDryGin label and is considered the most successful solo female distiller. Incidentally, the experts say that while gin does not always need a mixer, it definitely should not be drunk on the rocks. Still, G&T remains the most popular choice: the classic gin and tonic.



Vermouth

Vermouth has been similarly on trend these past few years, although it has been around forever: in ancient Egypt and Greece, wine was mixed with herbs. As with wine, there are white, red, and rosé varieties. An uncomplicated option, it is popular as an aperitif. And with an alcohol content of below 22 percent, vermouth is not too strong either. The longest-established Viennese vermouth has been around since 1891. Made by Burschik, it is named “Vermouth” rather than the usual German signifier “Wermuth”. Tastings and guided tours are available at the company’s lounge just behind Vienna’s Westbahnhof station. Vermouth owes much of its popularity to cocktails such as Martini and Negroni, the second of which is also available in a Viennese variant: mix Burschik’s Vermouth Red, Wien Gin, and Wiener Dirndl (a liqueur made from cornelian cherries), also produced here, in equal proportions. And there you have it: a “Negroni, Oida!”

Even More Spirits and Liqueurs

But Vienna has even more to offer, including a number of products that people would not immediately associate with the city. Sake.Wien sells traditional Japanese rice wine – made from crisp Viennese mountain spring water and organic rice from Italy. Kalê is an aromatic herbal liqueur, which is either served on its own or as a mixed drink – variants include Kalê Spritz and Kalê Sour. But it wouldn’t be Vienna if coffee didn’t find its way into those shot glasses somehow: Wiener Mocca from the Naber coffee roastery is a strong coffee liqueur. Under a cooperation with Manner, Alt Wiener Schnapsmuseum GmbH produces cream liqueurs in various flavors – including chocolate bananas and Neapolitan wafers. And for anyone who prefers things a little stronger, the traditional Meidling-based Viennese distillery also produces various absinthes.



Sparkling Wine

When there is something to celebrate, the Viennese love to raise a toast with a glass of sparkling wine. Here, too, they have the pick of numerous varieties that are deeply rooted in the city. An upgrade of wine, sparkling wine, or Sekt to use its German name, is produced in Vienna by numerous vintners as well as a number of genuine pioneers in the field. Schlumberger, which now also owns Viennese brand Hochriegl, was founded in 1842, making it the oldest sparkling wine producer in Austria. Kattus, a former imperial and royal warrant holder, also has an illustrious history. It is said that Emperor Franz Joseph treated himself to a bottle of Kattus every Sunday. Well worth a look, both companies' nineteenth-district cellars are open to the public. Sekt enjoys an enduring popularity: according to the Sektreport, nine out of ten Austrians indulge in a glass from time to time. And more and more people are also turning to the various non-alcoholic varieties.



Beer

Vienna's history with beer is even longer: the city was a brewing hotspot from the Middle Ages all the way through until the nineteenth century. Today, only one major brewer remains: Ottakringer. Its brewery in the sixteenth district doubles up as a popular event and party location. A can of Ottakringer beer is known in Viennese dialect as a "Sechzehner-Blech" – with "Sechzehn" (sixteen) denoting the district and "Blech" (tin) referencing the cans. Give it a try at a sausage stand. Great-tasting Viennese beer can also be enjoyed at one of the 15 or so pubs dotted across the city that brew their own. The young Viennese brewing scene is constantly giving rise to new craft beers. Radler – beer mixed with soft drinks like lemonade, or even with carbonated water – is also very popular in Vienna. Beer, by the way, comes in three sizes: a Piff (125ml), a Seidl (300ml), or a Krügerl (500ml).

Wienliebe (Vienna Love)

A cocktail that tastes like Vienna, developed exclusively for us by Isabella Lombardo, bartender at Lvdwig Bar (see pages 78/79).

- 5 cl Wiener Blut Gin
- 3 cl homemade elderflower cordial
- 2 cl Sissi Wiener Wermut
- 1 cl Supasawa
- 0.5 cl Gegenbauer blueberry vinegar

Stir all ingredients in a mixing glass and mix well. Then serve garnished with a few blueberries and a slice of lemon peel. Serve in any type of glass, depending on the size of serving desired.



City Bites

(Photos)
Julie BRASS

(Text)
Tobias SCHREIBER

Sausage stands are by no means the only place to get street food in Vienna. Viennese cuisine has also rustled up a number of specialties for people wanting to eat on the fly. They range from hearty home cooking to delicate sweet treats. There's not much time for photos – it's just too delicious to wait.



Trzesniewski Open Sandwich Specialists

A traditional Viennese company with a Polish name (pronounced “Tscheschniewski”) follows a concept that is as simple as it is ingenious – small slices of dark bread topped with spreads of all kinds. Something which has always made them the perfect option to bridge that snack gap. The most popular variety is Speck mit Ei (lightly cured smoked ham with egg). A colorful assortment of meat, fish, vegetarian and vegan spreads line the display cabinets. And 18 of the 25 varieties have remained unchanged since Trzesniewski first set up shop more than 100 years ago. Despite numerous

attempts to enlist the support of machines to make the work easier, the trademark pattern in the topping is still created by hand with a fork. A slicer is all that is used – to ensure that each open sandwich is the same size. Traditionally, the sandwiches are washed down with a Pfiff: an eighth of a liter of beer, which seems to be just the right amount to go with the food. Trzesniewski's oldest branch is located in the heart of the old town, just a stone's throw from St. Stephen's Cathedral. The other twelve are scattered across the city.

● Trzesniewski
Dorotheergasse 1, 1010 Vienna
www.trzesniewski.at

Leberkäse Meatloaf

Sounds Weird, Tastes Fantastic

Part of Vienna like the Giant Ferris Wheel, the Danube, the waltz or the humble sausage: Leberkäse meatloaf. Don't worry, the name is not derived from the contents (Leber = liver; Käse = cheese), but from the shape of the meat – in German “Laib”. And the “Käse” part originates from the similarity to a block of cheese. While it usually contains pork, sometimes beef is mixed in too for good measure. Gourmets even use veal, and horsemeat Leberkäse is a real specialty. In the classic version, a slice is added to a Semmel roll with – according to preference – mustard or ketchup before being garnished with additional flavors including horseradish, gherkins or a pickled Pfefferoni chili pepper. Leberkäs'-Semmel is sold at virtually all supermarkets as well as sausage stands and butcher's shops. Particularly tasty examples can be found at the Praterwirt and Fleischerei Ringl. Both of them offer multiple varieties to choose from. The Käse-Leberkäse, i.e. normal Leberkäse but with cheese added to the mix, is an outstanding combination – both from a flavor and linguistic point of view!

● Praterwirt
Praterstrasse 45, 1020 Vienna
www.praterwirt.com

● Fleischerei Ringl
Gumpendorfer Strasse 105, 1060 Vienna
www.fleischerei-ringl.at



Tatarie Marie

The Raw Bistro

A toque-winning chef, an organic farmer, a creative director and a top restaurateur open a restaurant. No, this is not the first line of a bad joke, but the backstory for an innovative street food project that goes by the name of Tatarie Marie. This “patchwork family par excellence”, as the four refer to themselves, festoon brioche buns with all kinds of uncooked treats: whether it's beef, veal, fish or vegetables – it's all organic. The many flavors and toppings are also selected with just as much care as they are arranged before serving. Dominik Stolzer, who most recently worked as head chef at Hotel Sacher, is responsible for the flavors. All of the individual elements come together to create a feast for both the palate and the eyes. Located behind St. Stephen's Cathedral, another eye-catching feature of this small eatery are the glowing, 3D-printed bull noses in the shop window. Tatarie Marie takes fast food to the next level across the board, proving that it can taste good without making any concessions when it comes to quality and sustainability.

● Tatarie Marie
Freisingergasse 1, 1010 Vienna
www.tatariemarie.com



Demel Kaiserschmarrn Street Food Served Through the Storefront

Many stories are told about the origin of the name Kaiserschmarrn. Most of them relate to Emperor (Kaiser) Franz Joseph and Empress (Kaiserin) Sisi. There is still disagreement about whether the spelling should be “Schmarrn” or “Schmarren”. What is certain, though, is that nobody’s going to turn their nose up at a portion of fluffy Kaiserschmarrn with Zwetschkenröster (plum compôte) and icing sugar! And especially not when it comes courtesy of former purveyor of confectionery to the court Demel on Kohlmarkt. The imperial family enjoyed Demel’s take on this dish at the nearby Hofburg. A while ago, the dessert stopped being the exclusive preserve of the café – it is now a popular to-go option for people to enjoy as they take a stroll around the first district. Typically for any street food, customers can watch it being made. Behind a large shop window, pancake batter sizzles away in several large pans until it is ready to be expertly “shredded.” And should it contain raisins? Well, opinions are divided here too.

● K. u. K. Hofzuckerbäckerei Demel
Kohlmarkt 14, 1010 Vienna
www.demel.com



Tichy’s Apricot-Filled Ice Cream Dumplings Patented Ice Cream Sensation

For over 70 years, the Tichy family has been putting customers under its spell with its ice cream specialties in Vienna’s tenth district. But it is apricot-filled ice cream dumplings that this retro ice cream parlor is really known for even abroad. In 1967, Kurt Tichy Senior put his very own spin on the popular Austrian dessert of apricot dumplings. Of course, the core is still an apricot – albeit this time in ice cream form. And instead of potato dough, it is all encased in vanilla ice cream before being rolled in chopped nuts instead of bread-crumbs. Tichy even patented the manufacturing process. And nothing beats the original in terms of taste. To begin with, customers were pretty skeptical, and rumors abound that a number of uninformed individuals even threw the ice cream dumplings into boiling water. But it wasn’t long before they really took off and they’ve been a hit with patrons ever since. In summer, the red and white Tichy-branded tubs are impossible to miss on Reumannplatz. Tuck in before it melts!

● Eissalon Tichy
Reumannplatz 13, 1100 Vienna
www.tichy-eissalon.at



Döner Brutal

A Fresh Take on a Classic

Vienna is different, and that's reflected in its culinary life too. The Austrian capital's first kebab restaurant opened in 1983, and not much about the fast food classic has changed since – until now. A number of restaurateurs are looking to put their own stamp on the tried-and-tested sandwich format. Among them are Xaver Kislinger and Javier Mancilla, who have come up with a name for their project in the sixth district that says it all, really: Döner Brutal. Layered on a skewer, the organic beef is refined using garum, a fermented spice essence based on koji mushrooms. Seitan marinated with lentil miso provides a vegetarian alternative. But that's not all: depending on personal preference, specially pickled cherry tomatoes and onions, as well as parsley and dill are added to the elongated sourdough bun, alongside red cabbage and pickled cucumbers. And finally, a delicious yogurt sauce with roasted onions, garlic and chili is drizzled on top. Rather than "brutal", it tastes almost tender. Best enjoyed with a homemade ayran yogurt drink or iced tea.

● Döner Brutal
Gumpendorfer Strasse 33, 1060 Vienna
[@doenerbrutal](#)



Viennese Escargots

Once Street Food – Now a Rarity

No, your eyes aren't playing tricks on you! Considered a delicacy in fine dining circles, many still shudder at the very thought of it, even though Vienna was a hotbed for this specialty all the way up until the 20th century. We are, of course, talking about the snail. Considered neither meat nor fish back then, it was a popular fasting option. All social classes ate escargots – in dumplings, pastries or simply on their own. All variants were prepared at the snail market behind St. Peter's Church in the first district where "Schneckenweiber" (snail women) would sell them as a snack to enjoy on the go – real street food. And now Andreas Gugumuck is breathing fresh life into this time-honored tradition with his snail farm on the outskirts of Vienna. In the in-house bistro, the snail is the star of the show. This forgotten classic is also finding its way back onto restaurant plates and the shelves of the city's delis thanks to Gugumuck. From the street to the restaurant – and soon the other way round?

● Vienna Escargot Farm Gugumuck and bistro
Rosiwalgasse 44, 1100 Vienna
[www.gugumuck.com](#)





Urban Idyll

Clubbing at the lido or red carpet at the cemetery? It's safe to say that nothing looks the same from above.

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Ten Questions for Dierk Rossiwall

Once a party organizer, this lifeguard at Vienna's legendary Gänsehäufel lido is now in his element surrounded by fun-loving retirees.

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Cemetery of the Stars

Vienna's Central Cemetery is 150 years old. Lots of superstars – from Beethoven to Falco – are laid to rest there. A flurry of flashbulbs.

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View From the Top

Roof terraces are in vogue. In Vienna, new options – freely accessible to the general public – are opening up all the time. We show the most spectacular views from above. Well, slivers of them, at least.



Ten Questions for *Dierk Rossiwall*

(Interview)
Susanne KAPELLER

(Photo)
Julius HIRTZBERGER

Dierk Rossiwall is a dyed-in-the-wool lifeguard at the Gänsehäufel, an iconic, more than 100-year-old outdoor pool complex on an island in the Old Danube. Once a club promoter, he now calls the island's "West Beach" his professional home. The Gänsehäufel is the largest outdoor pool in Vienna and has a special charm all of its own.

Strandbad Gänsehäufel Lido

Moissigasse 21
1220 Vienna
www.gaensehaeufel.at

① **From party organizer to outdoor pool – how did that come about?**

I turned my hobby into a profession for three decades, but then I wanted to reclaim music for myself without that career pressure behind it. So I quit my job and life led me to an island. It doesn't have to be in the South Seas.

② **What do you love about your job?**

As someone who is sportingly inclined, I'd much rather be outside than stuck in an office. And the wide cross-section of society that our bathers come from. You find them all here, from dropouts to international bankers.

③ **Are there any unpleasant sides?**

Even if the job might seem pretty chill: you still have to have it in you physically to get through those long heatwaves.

④ **Vienna's outdoor pools – what's typically Viennese about them?**

The lifeguards – known here as Badewaschln. There's no more Viennese profession.

⑤ **Which regulars have grown close to your heart?**

Lots of the pensioners with their witty repartee. The international family, for whom any day is a beautiful day no matter how bad the weather is. The kids proudly showing off their swimming skills to the lifeguard. Friends and people I do sport with who come to visit. The list goes on.

⑥ **Which guests are annoying?**

The ones who think the rules don't apply to them. Ultimately, the lifeguard always wins, even if that's not the chief motivation.

⑦ **What's your job like in bad weather?**

You've still got to keep your wits about you, because there'll always be someone in the water. Besides, there is enough that needs to be done on the beach and out on the lawns.

⑧ **For a lifeguard, the whistle comes with the territory. When do you give it a blast?**

The whistle is used to prevent accidents. If swimmers stay on the straight and narrow, we're not going to whistle. But if they don't ...

⑨ **How do you keep an eye on everything?**

"My" bit of West Beach stretches almost 350 meters and includes the largest patch of water. Sometimes you need binoculars and a decent pair of sunglasses. Drink water and keep a cool head in every sense of the word.

⑩ **Gänsehäufel aside, what's your favorite place in Vienna?**

As a runner you're married to Prater Hauptallee and the Danube Canal but then you flirt with the Danube Island and the Old Danube during the long runs. On Improv Monday, I like to be at Celeste or go for a beer at Venster 99. The range of options has grown. I love living in Vienna.

(Text)
Susanna BURGER

(Photos)
Paul BAUER

Cemetery of the Stars



One of the most visited graves is Falco's († 1998).

Happy Birthday, Vienna Central Cemetery!

To mark its 150th anniversary, we're shining a light on one of the Viennese people's favorite places. Unforgotten in death – stars from Falco to Strauss continue to shine bright here on the ultimate stage.

But the site is much more than an eternal resting place: it's also a natural habitat that numerous species of animals call home, a wilderness and urban gardening space, an art nouveau gem and a jogging route all rolled into one. Europe's second-largest cemetery has enough room for a Funeral Museum, a coffeehouse – and even its own bus route.

It already has its own anthem: Austropop stalwart Wolfgang Ambros sang about it 50 years ago, inspired by another milestone anniversary at that time: "The Central Cemetery is full of atmosphere not seen in its lifetime, as today the dead celebrate its first hundred years." This song – and countless others, chief among them traditional Wienerlieder compositions – reveal the special relationship that the Viennese have with death. So it hardly comes as any surprise to learn that they find themselves drawn to the Central Cemetery. Not just to tend to the graves, but also simply as a place to go for a stroll.

The facts and figures: Vienna Central Cemetery (Zentralfriedhof) opened on All Saints' Day (November 1) in 1874, in a far from finished state. And over the past 150 years it has become one of Vienna's top sights. With a footprint just shy of 2.5km², it is the second largest burial ground in Europe and the seventh largest in the world. There are around three million people interred in around 330,000 graves, making it the world's largest in terms of "population". But more impressive than the stats is the atmosphere of this magical place – it's a parallel world that takes some beating when it comes to sheer variety. In this necropolis, arched tombs, mausoleums, bizarre-looking monuments and simple graves come thick and fast – each with their own stories to tell. Here, peace and quiet reigns supreme.

Eternal Rest Next to Beethoven

The line-up of star residents is truly remarkable. The most visited grave of them all is that of classical

music superstar Ludwig van Beethoven († 1827). He – well, his skeleton at least, because his head was stolen, presumably shortly after his death – was moved from Währing Cemetery to the Central Cemetery at the end of the 19th century in a bid to elevate its appeal among the Viennese populace. And it was a marketing masterstroke that continues to work wonders to this day: just a short distance from Beethoven's grave is the "World Music Fans" crypt, which has enough space for 100 urns so that music fans can be laid to rest near their idols. The crypt's owner is an Asian businessman – in Vienna, you can even do business with death.



Maria Lassnig († 2014) – internationally-acclaimed painter, graphic artist and media artist.

Stars Even in Death

The cemetery has a total of 1,000 Ehrengräber, or graves of honor, including the final resting places of many musicians. Nowhere else in the world is the concentration of stars so high. In his “Noble, Poor or Rich – Death Makes Everyone Equal!” tour, Josef Kirchberger, a cemetery worker and expert of some 30 years standing, shares facts, anecdotes, touching stories and bizarre details. Including ones about the graves of the Strauss dynasty, and a tale that reveals how the members of the clan finally found peace next to each other: Johann Strauss father († 1849) and his rival and successor, the waltz king Johann Strauss († 1899), a few steps farther on Strauss senior’s musical competitor Josef Lanner († 1843). Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart († 1791) is commemorated by a somewhat simple monument – he was buried in St. Marx.

Some of the more recent graves are real eye-catchers. A white marble grand piano covered by a cloth hewn out of stone: the tombstone of Udo Jürgens († 2014) is a final ovation for the musician who cast himself as “The Man at the Piano”. According to Kirchberger, he has sold a similar number of records to star tenor Luciano Pavarotti, and only a handful fewer than Tina Turner.

Next to it, a pink sculpture reaches skywards – here rests the visual artist Franz West († 2012). This “thing” is said to have already been the subject of several heated disputes among visitors to the cemetery.

Rest in Peace, Hedy

A seemingly abstract tomb just around the corner has a captivating story behind it: spheres are mounted at different heights on multiple silver-colored metal rods. The solution to the puzzle: when viewed from a certain angle, the likeness of Hedy Lamarr († 2000) appears in 3D. A woman that Josef Kirchberger reserves the highest praise for: “You can’t top Hedy,” he gushes. Born in Vienna, she was fêted as the most beautiful woman in the world, achieved fame as a (naked) Hollywood icon and made history as an inventor: together with George Antheil, she patented the frequency hopping method. Originally intended for use by the American military in World War II,

her innovation is still used today in modern telecommunications technology – GPS, WiFi, Bluetooth and smartphones would not exist in their current form without Hedy Lamarr. As an interesting aside: one of the (now silver) spheres was originally golden and represented Lamarr’s gold tooth.

No story would be complete without some cat content: the grave of Austrian artist Manfred Deix († 2016) is a one of a kind. The legendary cartoonist, chain smoker and cat lover had one of his feline figures, cigarette in mouth, positioned on top of his headstone. His grave contains cat hair (he lived with 23 felines at the time of his passing), a Beach Boys CD and a bottle of wine.



Symbols adorning the headstone of waltz superstar Johann Strauss II († 1899): a bat representing his operetta *Die Fledermaus*, and a waltzing couple for his dance music.

Jewel of Viennese Art Nouveau

Just over from the graves of honor is a glittering example of Viennese art nouveau sacral architecture: the cemetery church of St. Charles Borromeo, which was built between 1908 and 1910 according to plans drawn up by Max Hegele. On the inside, the windows featuring depictions of angels by Leopold Forstner are particularly impressive, as is the Egyptian-influence vivid blue dome picked out with a galaxy of golden stars. Outside, meanwhile, the tower clock faces have letters instead of numbers to denote the hours. When read clockwise, they form the Latin phrase “Tempus fugit” (“Time flees”), and a cross is positioned where the twelve would normally be.

Kirchberger’s tour ends at the presidential crypt, where the Austrian federal presidents of the Second Republic are laid to rest along with their wives. While this guided tour by Josef Kirchberger is definitely shaped by stars and high society, another option entitled “A Hamster’s Eye View of the City of the Dead” approaches matters from a completely different angle.



Franz West’s (†2012) art continues to divide opinions to this day.



In death as in life, a stage scene: Udo Jürgens († 2014) has a white piano.

Furry Friends

The cemetery’s flora and fauna are exceptional. Kirchberger’s favorite animal is the strictly protected field hamster, which is also the unofficial mascot of the Central Cemetery. It is believed that the largest population of the rodents in the whole of Europe lives here – concentrated in the Park of Peace and Strength, largely in complex underground structures.

The rest of the Central Cemetery’s “big five” are deer, hares, foxes and hedgehogs. Other inhabitants of this unique ecosystem include squirrels, kestrels, badgers and martens. A popular retreat for these shy residents is the old Jewish cemetery. Since graves must never be abandoned according to Jewish law, the Jewish section covers an impressive 260,000m² and contains around 60,000 graves, including a number of graves of honor for the likes of the writer Arthur Schnitzler († 1931) and the neurologist Viktor Frankl († 1997). Today, a walk among the old graves, some of which are seriously overgrown, feels like entering an enchanted world that has been reclaimed by the wilderness. Weathered monuments, thickets and trees provide perfect habitats for wildlife.

Organic All the Way

But the Central Cemetery has still more to offer. In May 2023, previously unused grassy areas were opened up as urban allotments. But don't worry: the roots of vegetables and herbs won't be reaching down to any coffins or bones because – it needs to be said – no one has ever been buried here. Under the watchful eye of the professionals from Ackerhelden, hobby gardeners can hope for a rich harvest while cultivating their hallowed 24 or 40m² plots.

Another project, Biodiversity at the Cemetery, explores which animals, plants and fungi can be found in the 46 cemeteries of the city of Vienna – so by definition at Central Cemetery, too. This has also resulted in the institution of protective measures such as deadwood areas, hedgehog nests and information displays. Cemetery visitors

make a contribution with their fascinating wildlife snapshots.

In recent years, the Central Cemetery has taken huge strides towards opening up to the world of the living with the aim of addressing taboos surrounding the topic of death. In 2019, a pair of official jogging routes – Silent Run I and Silent Run II – were opened. At first there was heated debate on whether allowing people to use the area for sport was not somehow sacrilegious, but these days joggers are a familiar sight. By the way, the same goes for cyclists. And there are e-bikes for hire at the entrance, too. Getting around by horse-drawn carriage and even public transport are among the other green and sustainable options: served by an electric bus, route 106 runs exclusively inside the cemetery grounds. It takes 22 minutes to make its 19-stop circuit.



The grave of a Hollywood icon and inventor: Hedy Lamarr's († 2000) portrait in 3D. Behind it Manfred Deix's († 2016) crown-wearing cat.



A horse-drawn carriage ride through the 2.5km² Central Cemetery courtesy of Fiaker Wulf, including the star-studded graves of honor.



Cemetery keep-fit on the Silent Run jogging routes.

Funereal Fun

The Viennese are rightly said to have a penchant for the morbid – otherwise the Central Cemetery’s fascinating and frankly bizarre Funeral Museum simply would not exist. Fittingly, it is located below ground. Covering some 300m², its 30 stations contain 250 morbid exhibits from the Herzstichmesser (a long blade used to puncture the heart to make doubly sure that the deceased had actually passed) and the reusable coffin introduced by Joseph II, to the rescue bell. The museum shop merch takes a sideways look at the Viennese cult of death: with funny slogans on everything from gym bags and aprons, to fan t-shirts emblazoned with “Funeral Museum Vienna – We put the Fun

in Funeral”. During the Long Night of Museums at the beginning of October and at Halloween, visitors even have the chance to try out a coffin for size – which is an extremely popular pursuit!

Another typically Viennese touch: a coffee-house right next to the cemetery. The Oberlaa patisserie offers excellent cakes and pastries as well as small snacks in the listed gatehouse building. There are many pleasant hours to be spent at the Central Cemetery – so much so, in fact, that some stay for an eternity.

● Central Cemetery
 Simmeringer Hauptstrasse 234
 1110 Vienna
www.friedhofewien.at

View From the Top

(Text)
Karoline KNEZEVIC

(Photos)
Paul BAUER

Rooftop terraces and viewing platforms have a unique charm – residents of Vienna and visitors alike can't get enough of their breathtaking high-up views. But Vienna wouldn't be Vienna if it didn't go a step further: contemporary concepts in the city are opening up viewing terraces to the public without any obligation to buy anything. Here, the focus is firmly on enjoying the location and views of the city. Views that people need to see with their own eyes. On site and in person. No matter how perfect a snapshot is, it's never as good as the real thing. Which is why we're not even going to try to compete and only want to show you just enough to inspire you to come to Vienna and experience the locations for yourself.

Weitsicht Cobenzl

Am Cobenzl 94, 1190 Vienna
weitsichtcobenzl.at/rondell

What is only visible in the picture with the help of a magnifying glass turns out in real life to be a Viennese puzzle pic brimming with attractions: on the left the Spittelau waste incineration plant, further on the right the leafy Green Prater including the Giant Ferris Wheel, and an old anti-aircraft tower somewhere in the middle. Each fresh glance reveals something new. If fantastic views and good food are what you are looking for, then the Rondell café is ideal. And for anyone who prefers to stick to their own schedule, there is a publicly accessible viewing platform on the roof, which is open round the clock.





Burgtheater terrace, Parliament building



Parliament

Dr.-Karl-Renner-Ring 3, 1010 Vienna
www.parlament.gv.at

Reopened after a five-year renovation project completed in January 2023, the building is back to its dazzling best. Previously unused space on the rooftop level was extended and converted to create the restaurant Kelsen and four large terraces. We recommend visiting the Burgtheater terrace as part of a guided tour of the Parliament. There will be much more to see from this terrace than the Burgtheater, as is quickly confirmed by this uninterrupted view of St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Parliament building's prime location on the Ringstrasse boulevard.

MQ Libelle

Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Vienna
www.mqw.at/en/your-visit/mq-libelle

Up on the roof of the Leopold Museum, visitors to the MQ Libelle are definitely at a remove, but still very much in the thick of things at the MuseumsQuartier. Accessible via two outdoor lifts that scale the east side of the Leopold Museum, it is open daily (except Tuesdays). On the way up, we couldn't wait and had to take a picture from the glass elevator. But what's that in the background – the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna or the Naturhistorisches Museum Vienna? You'll have to find out for yourself. You can have a drink or a bite to eat at the rooftop kiosk. Or simply lap up the view.



Rooftop terrace, Ikea Westbahnhof

Ikea Westbahnhof

Europaplatz 1, 1150 Vienna
www.ikea.com/at/de/stores/wien-westbahnhof

70 fully-fledged trees growing out of giant planters, a fantastic view of Vienna and all that with no obligation to make a purchase either. Swedish furniture giant Ikea's Westbahnhof store has created an

innovative city center location that even features a hostel called JO&JOE. While the terrace's opening hours are linked to store opening times, JO&JOE sometimes keeps the terrace open longer when the weather's particularly nice, as well as for events or on Sundays. Which is a stroke of luck, as the views that unfold behind the planters just can't be found anywhere else in Vienna.



Wien Museum

Karlsplatz 8, 1040 Vienna
www.wienmuseum.at

The Wien Museum closed for extensive renovations in 2019. But now a newly created terrace floor – a generously glazed area set back from the edge of the building – contains a café-bar with an

incredible view. Just one step onto the terrace and it feels like the dome of the Karlskirche church is within touching distance. The terrace can also be accessed without a ticket during museum opening hours – and it's a true Viennese treat when enjoyed in combination with a trip to the Wien Museum.



Insider

The most beautiful Italian name in the city wheels out the illustrations, while the capital's best events don't take place online.

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Ten Questions for Francesco Ciccolella

Francesco is behind the creative illustrations for Vienna, Intl., and also works for the New York Times or The Guardian.

It was high time for an interview with him.

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Exploring Vienna by Bike

A new rental bike system in Vienna opens up a sustainable and environmentally friendly way to explore the city.

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Travel Companions for That Perfect Vienna Experience

We guide you through our city both online and offline – from our ivie app to the print brochures spot and route and the countless benefits that the Vienna City Card brings.

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Vienna Online

The inside line on Vienna – important info online and on social media.

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Top Events in 2024

You definitely won't want to miss these events!



Ten Questions for *Francesco Ciccolella*

(Interview)
Robert SEYDEL

(Photo)
Lisa EDI

Francesco Ciccolella, who also creates illustrations for Vienna, Intl., is a big deal: the 33-year old works for various publications including The New York Times and The Guardian. He has won a number of international awards for his work. And a volume of his drawings has just been published.



Francesco Ciccolella,
„Between The Lines“
francescociccolella.com

- ① **How did you get into illustrating?**
I've always liked to draw. It was during my studies at the University of Applied Arts Vienna that I decided I wanted to communicate with images.
- ② **Does your style have a name?**
There's not a catchy word for it. I deliver a punch line, a message in my pictures.
- ③ **Does Vienna influence how you illustrate?**
Yes. A lot of what I do centers on Viennese Modernism. Lots of that goes into my work.
- ④ **Do you do your illustrations slowly or quickly?**
Quickly. Since I work a lot with dailies, I'm used to tight deadlines. But I also enjoy taking longer.
- ⑤ **How did you come to get commissions from international media such as The New York Times and The Guardian?**
The first ones came off the back of self-illustrated postcards that I sent to all the editors. And at some point, things took care of themselves from there.
- ⑥ **Your father is Italian, your mother Upper Austrian, you grew up in Salzburg. Why Vienna?**
Most people can lead a good, stress-free life here. That makes Vienna a good breeding ground for creative activities. Every now and again I deliberately expose myself to the hustle and bustle of a city like New York to stop myself from getting too cozy.
- ⑦ **What do you like doing in Vienna?**
Going for a walk in the Prater park, cycling on the Danube Island, swimming in the Old Danube. Being out and about with friends – in coffeehouses, in museums.
- ⑧ **Where do you most like to illustrate?**
Coming up with ideas can happen anywhere, in a coffee shop or at home. But when it comes to the final product, I go to my studio in the seventh district.
- ⑨ **How would you illustrate Vienna?**
With Viennese people. I like to incorporate a human element into my illustrations.
- ⑩ **Your current projects?**
My new book "Between The Lines" which features a series of drawings created over the past ten years. I'm really pleased with it.

(Photos)
Severin WURNIG

(Text)
Helga GERBL

Exploring Vienna by Bike

(Illustration)
Francesco CICCOLELLA

Vienna is a city where everything is relatively close at hand. Many of the first district's attractions are within easy walking distance, or just a short distance from each other by public transportation. But the city is also perfect for exploring on two wheels. The WienMobil rental bicycles add a breath of fresh air to any sightseeing itinerary.

Cycling – one of the most environmentally-friendly forms of personal transportation of all – contributes significantly to quality of life in Vienna. Outstanding infrastructure centered around a 1,700-kilometer network of bike paths makes cycling in Vienna attractive for both residents and guests alike.

WienMobil bike hire service

For more than 20 years now, cyclists have been able to hire bikes on a whim thanks to a public bike-sharing scheme. In 2022, the city's rental bike system was given a complete overhaul. Ever since, the services of Wiener Linien (the capital's public transportation operator) have extended to WienMobil hire bikes, in addition to Vienna's subway, tram and bus network. A total of 3,000 bikes are available, which can be picked up and dropped off at 240 locations spread across all 23 of Vienna's districts at any time of day or night.

The WienMobil Rad, to give it its German name, is a seven-speed smart city bike with an integrated electronic frame lock that can be tracked via GPS. The saddle can be raised or lowered using a convenient quick release.

How it works:



Registration

To begin with, new users need to register using the app from operating company nextbike (free to download from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store) or via the Wiener Linien website at www.wienerlinien.at/wienmobil/rad.

Up to four bikes (also including child seat) can be rented under each account. To activate the bike, simply scan the QR code on the bike using the nextbike app. The frame lock releases automatically. Bikes can be reserved in the app 15 minutes ahead of time.

Finding a bike

Users can check locations as well as current availability either in the nextbike app or on the docking station map on the Wiener Linien website. Marked by a red column, the WienMobil docking stations are also located at various sights throughout the city including the Vienna State Opera, the MuseumsQuartier, on Stephansplatz and beneath the Giant Ferris Wheel.

Paying

Users can pay by Visa/Mastercard, direct debit, Apple Pay, Google Pay and PayPal. Bike hire is billed in intervals of 30 minutes (60 cents for half an hour), with the maximum fee capped at EUR 14.90 for 24 hours. The total length of the hire includes any breaks in the journey.

Docking

When no longer needed, bikes can be returned at any WienMobil docking station. The bike is placed in the docking station and the session concludes once the frame lock is closed. If no spaces are available at the docking station, bikes can be left at a nearby bike rack. However, the frame lock must be closed to ensure that the bike is secured. Users should check whether they have done so correctly in the app immediately, otherwise additional service charges may apply.



nextbike offers round-the-clock support for registration issues, reporting damages or simply to rent a bike.

Tel: +43 1 385 01 89

E-mail: support@wienmobilrad.at

Tips for sightseeing on two wheels

The Ringstrasse is the go-to bike route. Stretching more than five kilometers, it runs the entire length of the magnificent boulevard surrounding Vienna's historic center, taking in the Vienna State Opera, Hofburg Palace, Parliament, City Hall and Stadtpark. The tree-lined Prater Hauptallee (including a stop-off at the Giant Ferris Wheel) or a waterfront trip along the Danube Canal are two of the capital's other most attractive routes.



Please ride safely and wear a helmet!

Everything you need to know about cycling in Vienna, the most beautiful bike routes, addresses of bike rentals as well as providers of guided bike tours can be found at wien.info/en/livable-vienna. Copies of the free Vienna bike map can be ordered from the Tourist Info centers or by sending an e-mail to info@vienna.info.

Travel Companions for That Perfect Vienna Experience

(Text)
Helga GERBL

ivie – the digital city guide for Vienna is an entertaining companion for visitors to the city. Thanks to the “route” and “spot” brochures, guests can get around the city even without an internet connection. And the Vienna City Card will help you to get from A to B sustainably while offering you numerous other advantages as a cardholder during your time in Vienna. An overview of the wide range of services offered by the Vienna Tourist Board.



Sisi Audio Guide
Photo: © Vienna Tourist Board/Paul Bauer

ivie’s “Walks & Guides” invites you to make your way along predefined routes like through the Prater or the grounds of Schönbrunn. The Guides section breaks down the Vienna experience by theme. As the name suggests, the Kids Guide takes in destinations with something for all the family to enjoy. There are also guides to fascinating museums, LGBT locations and much more.

ivie also contains a number of audio walks and audio guides: the Sisi Audio Guide showcases key locations in the capital that played a role in the life of the legendary Empress Elisabeth. The Ringstrasse Audio Walk leads you to the famous sights along the magnificent boulevard.

ivie’s “Events” function reveals which events are taking place where in Vienna. Anyone looking to find out more about specific locations – such as the Vienna State Opera – will find an overview of all the events currently taking place there.

Experience Vienna with ivie

ivie – Vienna’s official city guide app (iOS & Android) – is available for free in the app stores. The app is the perfect companion for discovering the city under your own steam.



Free download
(iOS or Android)
ivie.vienna.info



Photo: © Vienna Tourist Board/Paul Bauer

The Vienna City Card is available via the ivie app, from viennacitycard.at, at Tourist Info centers, at Wiener Linien, City Airport Train, Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB) and WESTbahn sales outlets, and from numerous participating hotels and travel agencies.



More at
viennacitycard.at

Vienna City Card

The Vienna City Card, the capital's official visitor card, was awarded the Austrian Ecolabel in 2022, making it the first city card worldwide to achieve green certification. It combines a comprehensive, environmentally-friendly mobility offering with numerous discounts for a sustainable city trip.

Starting at EUR 17, the Vienna City Card offers unlimited travel on the capital's public transportation network (zone 100) for 24, 48 or 72 hours. One child aged 14 or under, or a dog are included free of charge per card.

Cardholders can claim around 200 discounts at partner companies during their time in the city: from museum and sightseeing trips, to leisure and mobility offers, as well as money off at shops, hotels or restaurants.

The Airport Transfer add-on gives cardholders access to the following transfer options from the airport to the center and back again: City Airport Train (CAT), ÖBB Railjet (incl. first class), S-Bahn rapid transit rail service (S7) and the Vienna Airport Lines coach service. Two children aged 14 or under travel free.

The Hop-On Hop-Off add-on includes a 24-hour ticket for Big Bus or Vienna Sightseeing Tours. One child aged 14 or under takes the tour for free.



route and spot

route is a compact printed guide that features various city walks. Examples include a tour of the city center, a focus on Viennese Art Nouveau or a music-themed variant. Each walk is accompanied by hospitality and shopping tips.

Published quarterly, the spot brochure provides an overview of cultural highlights and events in Vienna as well as interesting glimpses behind the scene. You can find even more events throughout the year at events.vienna.info.

Printed copies of route and spot are available free of charge from the Tourist Info centers, as a downloadable PDF or flipbook at vienna.info, or can be ordered from folder.vienna.info.

Vienna Online

VIENNA ON THE WEB

Your travel guide in 11 languages
(incl. hotel reservations)

→ vienna.info

Heartbeat Streets.

Fall in Love with Vienna's Neighborhoods

→ heartbeat.vienna.info

Your tour guide in Chinese

→ weiyena.info

ivie – your personal Vienna guide

→ ivie.vienna.info

Vienna newsletter registration

→ vienna.info/en/newsletter

Vienna City Card – The Official City Card

→ viennacitycard.at

All the events just a click away

→ events.vienna.info

Info for the LGBT community

→ LGBT.vienna.info

Online shop for info material

→ folder.vienna.info

VIENNA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

→ facebook.com/ViennaTouristBoard

→ instagram.com/viennatouristboard

→ tiktok.com/@vienna.info

→ youtube.com/Vienna

→ pinterest.com/viennatouristboard

→ x.com/_vienna_info_

→ linkedin.com/company/vienna-tourist-board

→ linkedin.com/company/vienna-convention-bureau



Weibo



WeChat

B2B SERVICES

The website for tourist industry partners and media representatives

→ b2b.vienna.info

Vienna Convention Bureau

All the info about Meeting Destination Vienna

→ meeting.vienna.info

Vienna Experts Club and
Vienna Experts Club International

Training opportunities for people working in the Vienna and international tourist industry

→ experts.vienna.info

Picture database

→ photo.vienna.info

Footage database

→ footage.vienna.info

Visitor Economy Strategy 2025

→ shaping.vienna.info

Vienna Tourist Board visitor services

Vienna Hotels & Info

Information and support

Monday to Friday 09:00–17:00

+43 1 24 555

→ info@vienna.info

→ [Chat at vienna.info](#)

Tourist Info Vienna

Information, free city maps and brochures, Vienna City Card sales at all Tourist Info centers

Corner of Albertinaplatz and Maysedergasse
1010 Vienna

09:00–18:00 daily *

Tourist Info

Vienna International Airport

In the arrivals hall

09:00–18:00 daily *

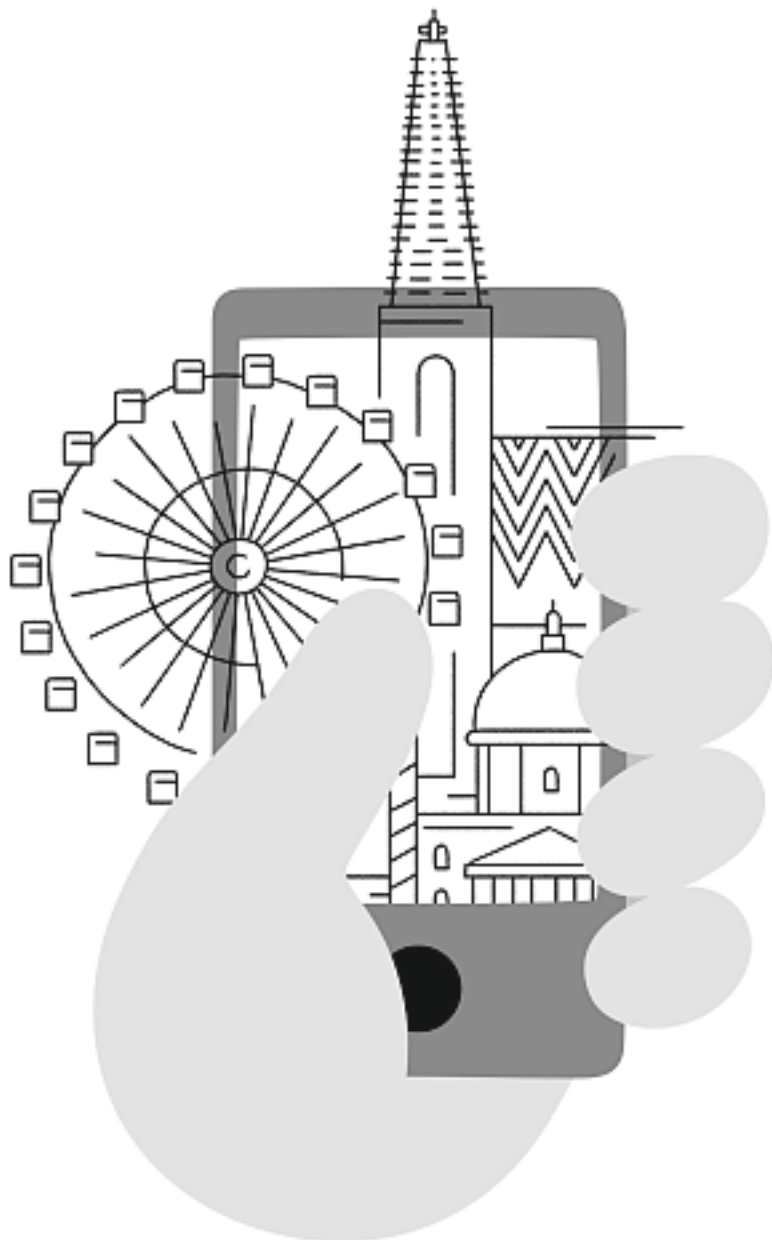


Share feedback on your stay in Vienna for a chance to win a prize.

→ survey.vienna.info/visitor

* Subject to change at short notice
Check time.wien.info for current opening hours.

ivie



Your personal Vienna guide.

Download now for free



Top Events in 2024

(Illustrations)
Francesco CICCOLELLA

(Text)
Andrea ORTMAYER

**New Year's Concert
by the Vienna
Philharmonic Orchestra**
in the Golden Hall at the Musikverein
Conductor: Christian Thielemann
● Jan 1, 2024
→ www.wienerphilharmoniker.at



Vienna Ice World
Dreaming of a winter fairytale?
Set against the stunning backdrop of
City Hall, ice skating fans have the run
of 8,500 m² of ice including a winding
trail through the Rathauspark.
Culinary treats and music to suit
every taste complete the fun. Skate
hire available.
● Jan 19–Mar 3, 2024
→ www.wienereristraum.com



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2024 VIENNA BALL SEASON

The Viennese Ball Season reaches its peak in January and February as the city celebrates its version of carnival – Fasching. Traditional balls and countless events for different professions fill the city's dancefloors, where revelers dance to the beat of the waltz or the latest club music.

Confectioners' Ball

Hofburg
● Jan 11, 2024
→ www.zuckerbaeckerball.com

Rainbow Ball

Parkhotel Schönbrunn
● Jan 27, 2024
www.regenbogenball.at

Coffeehouse Owners' Ball

Hofburg
● Feb 2, 2024
www.kaffeeseiederball.at

Vienna Opera Ball

Vienna State Opera
● Feb 8, 2024
www.wiener-staatsoper.at/opernball

For an overview of all the ball events in Vienna go to events.vienna.info or check the ivie app



EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS IN 2024

Vienna is a center of world class art. In 2024, the city's museums will be hosting numerous top-tier exhibitions.

Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach

● Feb 1–Apr 28, 2024

Secessions – Klimt, Stuck, Liebermann

● May 23–Oct 13, 2024
Wien Museum – New opening!
→ www.wienmuseum.at

Roy Lichtenstein

● Mar 8–Jul 14, 2024

Marc Chagall

● Sep 28, 2024–Feb 9, 2025
Albertina

Erwin Wurm

● Sep 13, 2024–Jan 19, 2025
Albertina modern
→ www.albertina.at

New Objectivity in Germany

● May 24–Sep 29, 2024
Leopold Museum
→ www.leopoldmuseum.org

Austrian Design.

100 Objects in Focus
● Sep 18, 2024–Mar 9, 2025
MAK – Museum of Applied Arts
→ www.mak.at

Rembrandt – Hoogstraten

● Oct 8, 2024–Jan 12, 2025
Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna
→ www.khm.at

Gustav Klimt Pigment & Pixel

● Oct 11, 2024–Mar 30, 2025
Upper Belvedere
→ www.belvedere.at

More exhibitions at
events.vienna.info and in the
ivie app

Phantom of the Opera

The world-famous musical by Sir
Andrew Lloyd Webber is back in
Vienna with a new production!

● Premiere: Mar 15, 2024
Raimund Theater
→ www.musicalvienna.at

EASTER MARKETS

Easter markets in Vienna have a long
tradition. Easter decorations and
beautifully painted eggs, handicrafts
and culinary treats set the tone at
the capital's Easter markets.

Schönbrunn Palace Easter Market

● Mar 16–Apr 2, 2024
→ www.ostermarkt.co.at

Old Viennese Easter Market at Freyung

● Mar 15–Apr 1, 2024
→ www.altwiener-markt.at

Vienna City Marathon

Thousands of runners from all over the
world and a route that takes in many of
the city's best-loved landmarks.

● Apr 21, 2024
→ www.vienna-marathon.com

Vienna Festival

In May and June, the Vienna Festival
sets the stage for new opera, theater,
performance, dance and music produc-
tions and premieres.

● May 17–Jun 23, 2024
→ www.festwochen.at



Vienna Pride and Rainbow Parade

In 2024, the Rainbow Parade will
take to the Ringstrasse boulevard for
the 28th time. The parade marks the
culmination of Vienna Pride, a two-
week event which sees the rainbow
flag flying high all over the city.

● June 2024
→ www.viennapride.at
→ www.regenbogenparade.at

Summer Night's Concert at Schönbrunn Palace

Against the stunning Baroque back-
drop of Schönbrunn Palace, the Vienna
Philharmonic serves up classical
music at its finest – outdoors and free
of charge.

● Jun 7, 2024
→ www.sommernachtskonzert.at

Danube Island Festival

The three-day Danube Island Festival
is one of the largest open-air music
festivals in Europe. Admission is free!

● Jun 21–23, 2024
→ www.donauinsselfest.at



34th Film Festival on Rathausplatz

In Summer, the square outside City
Hall is transformed into a bustling
open-air hotspot. The Film Festival
serves up opera, classical, pop and rock
film music highlights – and great food,
too. Admission is free!

● Jun 29–Sep 1, 2024
→ www.filmfestival-rathausplatz.at

Check events.vienna.info and the ivie
app for details of the city's other al
fresco cinemas this summer 2024.

EuroGames

#EmbraceDiversity
The multiday sports fest for members of
the LGBT community and their friends
will play out in Vienna for the first time
in 2024. At least 27 different sports
promise a packed program for the
approximately 3,000 participants from
all over the world. Anyone can join in –
regardless of sexual orientation.

● Jul 17–20, 2024
→ www.eurogames2024.at



ART AND DESIGN IN FALL

Every fall, Vienna stages a huge variety
of art and design events.

viennacontemporary

A magnet for art collectors,
curators, gallery owners and art
experts from all over the world.

● Sep 12–15, 2024
Messe Wien
→ www.viennacontemporary.at

Open House

Free tours of more than 50 fasci-
nating Viennese buildings that
are otherwise not open to visitors
provide exclusive insights for
architecture buffs.

● Sep 14 & 15, 2024
→ www.openhouse-wien.at

Parallel Vienna

An art fair with a twist: an empty
building will once again provide a
platform for contemporary art, by
creating a canvas for Austrian and
international artists.

● September 2024
→ www.parallelvienna.com

Vienna Design Week

International design festival
● Sep 20–29, 2024
→ www.viennadesignweek.at

Long Night of Museums

Over 100 museums and galleries in Vienna will be opening their doors to art-loving night owls – from six in the evening until one in the morning.

● Start of October 2024
→ langenacht.orf.at

Vienna Art Week

Highlights of the Viennese art scene: Exhibitions, panel discussions, tours, studio open houses and parties throughout the city.

● November 2024
→ www.viennaartweek.at



CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN VIENNA IN 2024

Some of the city's most attractive squares are transformed into enchanting Christmas markets between mid-November and Christmas. Festive lights twinkle above the old town and shopping streets, spreading Christmas cheer throughout the city.

Viennese Christmas Market on Rathausplatz

→ www.christkindlmarkt.at

Old Viennese Christmas Market at Freyung

→ www.altwiener-markt.at

Christmas Market Schloss Schönbrunn

→ www.weihnachtsmarkt.co.at

Spittelberg Christmas Market

→ spittelberg.at

Vienna New Year's Eve Trail

On December 31, the city center is transformed into a giant party scene. Non-stop revelry from 3pm until 2am: the New Year's Eve trail in the old town keeps the entertainment coming.

● Dec 31, 2024
→ www.wienersilvesterpfad.at

Details of New Year's Eve events incl. concerts, balls, galas and parties are listed at events.vienna.info and in the ivie app.

Please note that the events listed are subject to change or cancellation. Check the organizer's website in good time beforehand for updates.

You can find many more events online in our event database events.vienna.info or in our app ivie.

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**KAISERLICHE
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