

Things to do in Vienna

Winter School in Methods and Techniques University of Vienna, 14 – 21 February 2014

This is just a flavour of the many things you can do in Vienna. For more comprehensive information about the city, pick up a travel guide from a bookshop or visit www.wien.info

Sightseeing

A walk through Vienna takes in much of the city's rich history. Strolling alongside the Ring, the boulevard around the inner city, you pass a number of impressive buildings including the University of Vienna, City Hall, and the Parliament or Hofburg – centre of the former Habsburg Empire; now the official seat of the Austrian President. The Burgtheater (National Theatre), the State Opera, and some of the city's superb museums are also situated along the Ring.

St Stephen's Cathedral, Austria's best-known building and one of Vienna's landmarks, lies in the historic city centre. The oldest remaining parts of this gothic church date from the thirteenth century. Very near St Stephen's are several shopping promenades, including the famous Kärntnerstraße.

Schönbrunn Palace, former summer residence of the Habsburg family, lies outside the city centre. One of Europe's most impressive Baroque palace complexes, it is surrounded by an enchanting park.

Also at Schönbrunn, don't miss Vienna Zoo – voted Europe's best in 2009 and 2010. Containing more than 500 animal species, including giant pandas, it is considered one of the best and most modern zoos in the world, despite being the oldest!

Museums and stage shows

Vienna is also renowned for its rich cultural background. Its magnificent museums include the Art History Museum, the Albertina, the Museum of Applied Arts (MAK), the Belvedere, and the Museum of Natural History.

More famous composers have lived and worked in Vienna than in any other city. You can enjoy musical arts at the Vienna State Opera (Volksooper Wien), known for their first-class productions and top international performers, directors and stage designers.

Viennese Theatres also have an excellent reputation; the Volkstheater is definitely worth a visit.

Shopping

Vienna's shopping streets and pedestrian zones offer a vast range of stores, boutiques and shops; Mariahilferstraße is one of the most popular, but there many more shopping opportunities in the city centre.

Lifestyle and scene

Innumerable cafés, bars, pubs and clubs are within easy reach. Whether you'd like to take in a concert or simply go out for a drink, you'll be spoilt for choice! Worth a mention are the pubs and music venues at City Rail Arches as well as the restaurants and bars in the Museumsquartier.

For more on all of the above, visit www.wien.info