

American Celebration of Music in Austria

Standard Tour #3 (8 nights / 10 days)

Day 1

Depart via scheduled air service, including full meal, beverage service and in-flight entertainment. The destination is Munich, Germany



Day 2 Munich / Innsbruck

Arrive at the Munich airport. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach. Transfer to Innsbruck, stopping en route to visit Neuschwanstein Castle (made famous by the Walt Disney model in Anaheim), built by the infamous Ludwig II, Oberammergau (site of the famous Passion Play) and the Wieskirche. Welcome Dinner and overnight in Innsbruck.



Innsbruck, venue of the 1964 and 1976 Winter Olympics, is one of the most beautiful towns of its size (100,000). This 800-year-old university city is bounded on the north by the shimmering wall of the Nordkette Range of the Alps, on the south by the Tuxer Range rising to heights of 10,000 feet. The Empress Maria Theresia loved the Tyrol and Innsbruck, like her ancestor Emperor Maximilian I which accounts for the city's many beautiful buildings.



Day 3 Innsbruck

A morning guided tour of Innsbruck includes the Golden Roof, St. James' Cathedral, Wilten Basilica, the Olympic Ski Jump (a breathtaking view of the city below), and incredible Maximilian Mausoleum in the Hofkirche, featuring the imposing bronze statues of various Hapsburg saints and family. **Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria.**



Day 4 Innsbruck / Salzburg

Morning transfer to Salzburg. Enjoy an afternoon guided tour of Salzburg, including Mirabel Palace and Gardens, Mozart Square, the Dom Cathedral, University Church, the Mozarthaus (Mozart's birthplace) and a cable car ride up to the Fortress (for an unparalleled view of the city below).

Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace, is a delight from the first sight of the outline of the Hohensalzburg Fortress, the symbol of the power of the prince-archbishops. The city's picturesque streets with their wrought-iron signs, its spacious squares with sculptured fountains and the noble architecture of its buildings inspired by bishops with a passion for construction, leave memories which linger for years.



Day 5 Salzburg

Morning excursion to the Salt Mines in Hallein. The tour entails a walk through underground galleries, with a presentation in a cave showing the different techniques used in the extraction of salt and the descent on slides (toboggans). **Performance in Salzburg as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria.**



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Day 6 Salzburg / Graz

Transfer to Graz. An afternoon guided tour of Graz includes the Cathedral (Domkirche), Staircase Tower, Freedom Square, the Landhaus, Hauptplatz, the Medieval Quarter (named a UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site), and the famous Arsenal containing five stories of armor, weaponry, instruments of torture etc. from the Middle Ages. ***Performance in Graz as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria.***

Graz, the capital of Styria, is a city of Old World charm and home of several jazz conservatories. It is Austria's second largest city and has served as a very important meeting point between East and West for centuries. Three world-famous universities ensure a vibrant cultural life in a city awarded honors in Europe for outstanding preservation of its medieval center. The medieval city center has been declared one of the finest medieval cities in Europe - it has undeniable charm, a pleasing synthesis of Germanic sobriety and Italian grace.



Day 7 Graz / Vienna

Transfer to Vienna. Stop en route in Eisenstadt. Everything in Eisenstadt reminds one of the brilliant composer Haydn. Entrance is included to Esterhazy Palace with its Haydn'saal, where many of Haydn's works were premiered, Haydn Church to see his mausoleum, and also to Haydn's House, which is now a museum. Continue to Vienna for dinner and overnight.

Vienna is still considered the music capital of the world. It is a city of refined tastes, grace, style and unmatched artistic accomplishments. For a thousand years, Vienna was the capital of the far-flung Holy Roman and Hapsburg empires. Though its people and ways have changed, Vienna has retained its imperial monuments, not as reminders of past glories, but as living symbols of its present freedom.



Day 8 Vienna

Half-day guided tour of *Historical Vienna* includes the Ringstraße, Imperial Palace, State Opera, Town Hall, Burgkapelle (venue for the Vienna Boys Choir), Palace Stables, Strauß Monument, and Schönbrunn Palace, built by the Habsburgs in imitation of Versailles. ***Performance in Vienna as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria.***



Day 9 Vienna

Half-day guided tour of *Musical Vienna* includes entrance to either the Mozart "Figaro" House or a Beethoven house, and also the Haus der Musik (House of Music), a modern interactive sound museum located in the historic city center. This tour also includes the Museum of the Vienna Philharmonic. Evening Farewell Dinner.



Day 10 Depart for home

Transfer to Vienna's International Airport for return flight. Return home in the evening of the same day.