



VIENNA & SALZBURG

DECEMBER 9TH - 18TH 2021

Join Discover Europe for a very special journey to Vienna and Salzburg. Both city centers are UNESCO World Heritage Sites with well-preserved architecture, magnificent museums and gardens, culinary delights, and music everywhere. Our travels between these cities will provide memorable experiences of the Vienna Woods and the Danube's Wachau Valley, known for picturesque scenery, ancient monastic sites, and fine wines.

Our tour begins in Vienna, where we will stay in the historic center, steps from St. Stephen's Cathedral and surrounded by architectural and cultural magnificence befitting the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and seat of the Habsburg Dynasty. World-class musicians and performances will grace our time together and we'll also attend a service with music by the Vienna Boys Choir and a show of the Lippizaner Stallions of the famous Spanish Riding School.

Following in the footsteps of Mozart in Salzburg, we'll visit his birthplace and enjoy a Mozart dinner concert in the Baroque Hall of the ancient St. Peter monastery, where musicians in historic costumes perform Mozart's music during an elegant candlelit dinner prepared according to traditional recipes from Mozart's time.

We should also mention that, in this festive season, we will undoubtedly find the opportunity to visit a few of the wonderful Christmas Markets for which the region is famous. This is sure to be a remarkable trip, filled with glorious architecture, art, dining, drink, music, and memories.



MELK BENEDICTINE ABBEY



VIENNA

THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

LAND ONLY:	\$4990
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	\$1490

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

- HOTELS:** 8 nights' accommodation in first class hotels including all hotel taxes and service charges
- COACHING:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
- MEALS:** Breakfast daily, 1 lunch and 4 dinners
- GUIDES:** Discover Europe tour guide throughout. Local guides as detailed in the itinerary
- ENTRANCES:** Entrance fees to all sites as detailed in the itinerary
- TICKETS:** Best available seats for the Vienna Boys Choir, a performance at the Spanish Riding School by the Lippizaners, and 2 concert performances (all subject to availability when schedules are announced)
- BAGGAGE:** Portage of one large suitcase per person

Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour. Insurance information will be mailed to each registrant on receipt of deposit.





THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9TH - Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city.
OVERNIGHT: PLANE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH - Your arrival at Vienna airport, will be met for the transfer to our city-center hotel. Here you can unpack, relax, and begin to explore the elegant, old-world Austrian capital and its beautiful architecture. We'll meet up in the evening for dinner. **(D) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH - After a leisurely breakfast at the hotel, we will embark on a morning walking tour of some of the wonderful museums in the neighborhood. Our first stop will be at the palace of Beethoven's patron, Prince Lobkowitz. A short walk then brings us to the Secession Building to see Gustav Klimt's famed "Beethoven Frieze." Finally we will end our walking tour with a visit to the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of the most important fine art museums in the world, and its special installation, *Beethoven. The Exhibition*. The rest of the afternoon and evening are free. **(B) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH - It is a short walk this morning from our hotel to the Chapel in the Hofburg Palace where we attend the Vienna Boys Choir Mass at 9:15. Then you go immediately to the Spanish Riding School (also in the Hofburg palace) to see the show at 11:00. After a break for lunch, afternoon sightseeing with a local guide introduces this sparkling jewel of the Habsburg Empire and gives you an overview of all that the city has to offer. An early dinner is included at a local restaurant, before we attend a performance at the Vienna State Opera. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13TH - This morning we visit the Schönbrunn Palace, the exquisite summer residence of the Hapsburgs. We'll enjoy a guided tour of the interior and have time to stroll the gardens before heading back into the city for a chance to explore the Altwiener Christkindlmarkt in the heart of the city. **(B) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**



SCHONBRUNN PALACE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH - A full day excursion out of the city today takes us south to the town of Eisenstadt, home to the fabulous Esterhazy Palace. The Esterhazy family were important landowners under the Habsburg monarchy and they made their palace here in Eisenstadt their principal residence. It was here that they invited Franz Joseph Haydn to be their Kapellmeister, and he lived here full time from 1762 to 1790 and then on a part time basis for the rest of his life. We'll tour the palace and visit the "Haydn Explosive Exhibition" before returning to our hotel in Vienna where your evening is free. **(B) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH - Leaving Vienna today, our route takes us southwest of the city and into the Vienna Woods. We'll stop first at Mayerling the site of the hunting lodge where Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria and his lover Baroness Mary Vetsera died in a murder-suicide pact in 1889, scandalizing the society of the time. From here we'll visit the oldest continuously occupied Cistercian Monastery in the world, the nearby Abbey of Heiligenkreuz, founded in 1133. After a stop for lunch (included), we'll drive to Salzburg. On arrival we'll check in to our hotel, and have time to rest and freshen up before attending a Mozart dinner concert where musicians in historic costumes perform Mozart's music during an elegant candlelight dinner prepared according to traditional recipes from Mozart's time. **(B, L, D) OVERNIGHT: SALZBURG**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH - With its magnificent alpine setting, ornate Baroque churches, and Mozart legacy, Salzburg epitomizes all that is Austrian. A morning walking tour with a local guide introduces this "Rome of the North" and its medieval and baroque architectural treasures. We'll visit the house where Mozart lived for the first 17 years of his life and explore the surrounding neighborhoods. The afternoon is free—you might do a little shopping at the Salzburger Christkindlmarkt on the Residenzplatz or visit the Fortress Hohensalzburg. The evening is free. **(B) OVERNIGHT: SALZBURG**



SALZBURG

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17TH - This morning we head back east along the Danube Valley to the town of Melk. Here we'll stop for a guided tour of the fabulous Baroque Benedictine Abbey for which the town is famous and then have time for lunch in the town. From here we'll take a short boat ride down the Danube—the best way to see the natural beauty of the Wachau Valley—to the town of Krems. Here we'll meet our coach and check into the nearby Wilhelmsburg Estate, now a wonderful hotel beautifully situated on a hill overlooking Vienna. A farewell dinner at the estate this evening rounds off this magnificent trip. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18TH - Morning transfers to Vienna Airport for returning flights to the U.S. **(B) OVERNIGHT: HOME**

Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner