

EXCURSIONS IN VIENNA

Christmas Markets

Vienna's famous Christmas Market "Vienna Christmas World" will open on Friday 16 November, at Rathausplatz. Let yourself be enchanted by the Viennese Christmas Market tradition. In addition to the culinary delicacies – do not miss a cup of Glühwein – you will find traditional craft stalls, as well as many vendors selling "kitsch".

"Naschmarkt" – an absolute must for all gourmets

The specialty market on the outskirts of Vienna's old town is a real highlight. The market, which is open on weekdays until the early evening hours, has long been famous for its opulent variety and thus has become the city's largest inner-city market. Starting around 200 years ago as a small market for dairy products, the Naschmarkt now offers all a gourmet's heart could possibly desire: fruit from all over the world, wine, fish, antipasti, cheese, spices, bread and much more. And, once you built up an appetite, you can sit down in one of the small, no less exotic restaurants.

"MuseumsQuartier"

Since 2001, this relatively new museum complex is now a modern focal point of the Viennese art and cultural landscape. Formerly used as imperial stables (in the 18th century), the older buildings have been expanded to include a few modern ones and are now a superlative place to spend a whole day. The MuseumsQuartier offers 60.000m² of space for art, architecture, design, dance, theatre, fashion, restaurants and cafés.

The Inner City

<http://www.tourmycountry.com/austria/first-district-vienna.htm>

Vienna's first district is called "Innere Stadt", which means "Inner City". It is not only the most central of all districts and the legislative focal point of Vienna, it is also the historic core of the city. In fact, until the demolition of the town walls took place in the 19th century, the area that is the first district today was the walled part of Vienna. The Inner City is framed by the Ringstraße, which follows the course of the old town walls. Of all districts in Vienna, the first is the oldest and the only one with noteworthy medieval buildings. It also concentrates the vast majority of all sightseeing attractions of Vienna: Museums, palaces, churches – you name it. If it is not in the first district, it is likely to be by or near the Ringstraße and thus in walking distance to the first. Thus, the first district is also the most touristy – in fact, visitors that stay for only a day or a weekend in Vienna are likely to spend all their time here.

Vienna's famous coffee houses

In Vienna, coffee is celebrated as a form of art like nowhere else in the world. Coffee houses are and have been famous for their many variations – way before Starbucks. You can still find many traditional coffee houses throughout Vienna – especially in the narrow alleys in the Inner City.

Viennese water – in a class of its own

Simply turn on the tap and enjoy mountain spring water? It is possible in Vienna. Vienna's water flows from the mountain springs in the Styrian/Lower Austrian Alps, reaching the Austrian capital city 36 hours later, without pumps and under the strictest regulations.