

Vienna is a big city with a very high quality of life.

It is the federal capital of the Republic of Austria and at the same time one of the nine Austrian federal states. Vienna is a Danube city.

1.9 million inhabitants make up a fifth of the total Austrian population. Around 2.8 million people live in the greater Vienna area - this corresponds to around a third of the total Austrian population.

In **1155 Heinrich Jasomirgott made Vienna his capital**. After the end of the Third Crusade, the English King **Richard the Lionheart** was captured by Margrave Leopold V. on his return journey to England in 1192. A mint was set up with the generous ransom and the first major expansion of the city was financed. **Vienna had far-reaching trade relations along the Danube**. The rule of the Habsburgs in Austria began in 1278. Rudolf IV. founded the University of Vienna in 1365. He began building the Gothic nave of St. Stephen. In the 16th century **Hungary and Bohemia** came under the rule of the Habsburgs.

In 1804 Vienna became the imperial capital and residence of the Habsburgs and a cultural and political center of Europe. The historic center of Vienna and Schönbrunn Palace are now part of the UNESCO World Heritage.

Prince Eugen - was one of the most important generals of the Habsburg Empire. He fought successfully against the Osman's. He gained treasures and invested in in Vienna in culture, art and living circumstances.

After World War I on November 11, **1918**, Emperor Karl I issued his declaration of renunciation and left Schönbrunn Palace and the city of Vienna on the same day. **The HABSBURG area ended with 60 Millions inhabitant and its largeness close to that of our EUROPEAN UNION of today**. The next day **the 1st Republic in the extensions of today was proclaimed** by the Provisional National Assembly in Parliament. The Austrians welcomed Hitler. Almost 200,000 Jews lived in Vienna in 1938. 120.000 were killed. 60.000 left.

After World War II on **May 15, 1955**, **the country regained full freedom with the Austrian State Treaty**. In the autumn of 1956, Vienna took in many Hungarians who had fled west after the failed uprising against the communist regime. Likewise, many Czechs and Slovaks who had left Czechoslovakia after the violent end of the Prague Spring were admitted in 1968. Vienna experienced another wave of refugees after the collapse of Yugoslavia in 1991.

The first-class healthcare system, the highly developed education system, the density of cultural institutions and the efficient public administration make Vienna a place worth living in. The leisure quality of Vienna and the dense network of public transport make Vienna a city with a high quality of life. Dr. Rosemarie Kurz designed this Power Point for the Network Danube 2022

The Wiener **Riesenrad**, a landmark of the Austrian capital and a symbol of the world-famous Wiener Prater.
The „**Wurstelprater**“ is beloved by young and old.



Prince Eugene of Savoy (1663–1736) was a commander and diplomat in the Habsburg monarchy and acquired a considerable fortune through his successful fights against the Ottomans. With cosmopolitan sensitivity he met important personalities all over Europe. There was international exchange in the representative rooms of his castles. Prince Eugene not only had a lasting impact on politics, but also on art and cultural history in Austria. His buildings and his art collection made him one of the most important patrons of his time. The „**Schloss Belvedere**“ was the most expensive Building in Vienna. *Johann Lukas von Hildebrandt* was the architect. After Eugene's death, Maria Theresa bought this treasure and opened it for her own art exhibition.



Schönbrunn Palace is one of the most beautiful baroque complexes in Europe. *Owned by the Habsburgs* since 1569, the wife of Emperor Ferdinand II, *Eleonore von Gonzaga*, had a pleasure palace built on this site in 1642 and called the property "Schönbrunn" for the first time. The palace and gardens were built after the Turkish siege in 1696 were fundamentally *redesigned under Maria Theresa* after 1743. Today, the castle is a *UNESCO World Heritage Site* due to its historical significance, its unique complex and magnificent furnishings. There is a famous *zoo* and a *Gloriette* a wonderful complex on the small hill behind



In the middle of the 16th century Emperor Ferdinand moved his residence to Vienna and the castle became the *Hofburg*. Existing wings were expanded and numerous new ones were added, a tradition that continues to this day. A tour of the Hofburg is also a tour of art history. In 1846 a bronze statue of Emperor Franz II./I. was set up like a Roman Caesar. The Hofburg also includes the National Library. The official residence of the *Federal President is in Vienna in the Hofburg*.



The Vienna Prater was opened in 1766 by Joseph II. as a recreational area for all residents of Vienna. Due to its central location, good public transport connections and the many possible uses, it has a high status as a green oasis for visitors. The Green Prater is under "landscape protection" with the aim of preserving the typical structure of an almost untouched floodplain landscape.



Elisabeth of Austria, born (Dec 24, 1837 in Munich;† September 10, 1898 in Geneva. Through her *marriage to her cousin Franz Joseph I.* she became *Empress of Austria* from 1854 and *Apostolic Queen of Hungary* from 1867.

Elisabeth, called *Sisi*: She was beautiful, rich and had a husband, who adored her. She was educated, liked horse riding and traveled extensively. Only two weeks after the wedding, Sisi wrote in a poem "I woke up in a dungeon, and chains are on my hand. And my longing is getting stronger - and freedom! you, turned away from me!"

There is a wonderful „Sissy“ exhibition in the HOFBURG!



In order to maintain her figure and because of her inner restlessness, she sometimes went on *long hikes* every day at a fast pace, which her ladies-in-waiting could hardly keep up with. In addition, there were *gyms* in each of their domiciles with various machines, with rings, bars and dumbbells. The gymnastics equipment can still be seen today in the rooms of the Vienna Hofburg. Empress Elisabeth ate relatively little. *She kept her body weight constant* with an orange -, egg – and milk diet, salted raw egg whites instead of lunch and the occasional violet ice cream. She had broth made from pressed veal juice.



With the “Fiaker” through Vienna. They belong to Vienna like St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Ferris wheel: the Fiaker. A ride in one of the *two-horse carriages* is one of the highlights for many tourists. Between 1860 and 1900, more than 1,000 carriages were on the move in Vienna. Probably the most famous of their guild was *Josef Bratfisch*, Crown Prince Rudolf's fiaker, who brought Mary Vetsera to Mayerling in 1889, where the lives of both met a tragic end.

The world-famous performances of the Lipizzaner - the "*Ballet of the White Stallions*" - take place in the 1729-1735 magnificent baroque winter riding school in the Hofburg: In the most beautiful riding hall in the world! The demonstrations are the result of many years of training and intensive work by the riders and their Lipizzaners. The stormy young stallions enchant the audience as well as the already fully trained school stallions, who show themselves in the school quadrille with long reins.



With around 60 cultural institutions, the **MuseumsQuartier Wien** is not only one of the world's largest art and cultural areas, but also *an oasis of calmness and relaxation* in the middle of the city with its inner courtyards, cafés and shops. Today's MuseumsQuartier was built in the 18th century as *imperial court stables*, the plans for which came from the famous Austrian architect *Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach*. Historic architecture meets contemporary design and high culture meets subcultures. The spectrum ranges from visual arts, architecture, music, fashion, theatre, dance, literature, children's culture, game culture, street art to design and photography.
<https://www.mqw.at/>



The „WIENER STADTBAHN“ is one of the main works of the architect Otto Wagner, who not only designed the substructure and all buildings such as retaining walls, lining walls, bridges, viaducts, tunnel portals and stations in a uniform way, but also all the associated ticket and luggage counters, floor coverings, railings, elevators, grilles, Gates, furniture, water pipes, and heating and lighting fixtures. The infrastructure has largely been preserved and, as a total work of art in the transitional style between late historicism and early Art Nouveau, is one of the city's sights.



The Wien Museum is an *urban universal museum*; the architect and artist *Otto Wagner* (1841-1918) was one of the great pioneers of *Viennese Modernism*. The "Technische Museum" Wien offers extraordinary insights into the world of technology. In the ALBERTINA Museum in the center of Vienna, you can experience *art exhibitions* and *noble staterooms of the Habsburgs*. Leopold Museum has the world's *largest Schiele collection, major works by Gustav Klimt*, Vienna 1900 and Art Nouveau. The MAK - Museum of Applied Arts stands for an extraordinary connection between applied art, design, architecture and contemporary art. Kunsthistorisches Museum with: Tizian-exhibition als virtuelle 3D-Tour; Vienna World Museum with Vienna Imperial Treasury; Vienna Theseus Temple Vienna.

The Weltmuseum is an *ethnographic museum* and houses some of the world's most important non-European Collections. The most beautiful is *Federkrone Moctezumas from Mexico*. mit Verbindung zum aztekischen Herrscher Moctezuma II *Mexico fordert die Rückgabe*! The dimensions are 116 cm in height and, depending on the spread, 175 cm in width.



The Large Palm House in Schönbrunn was built between 1880 and 1882 by the [Ignaz Gridl](#) company on behalf of Emperor Franz Joseph I according to plans by the court [architect Franz Xaver Segenschmid](#). With a total area of 2,500m², it was the largest glass house in the world when it opened on July 19, 1882. The building, made up of prefabricated parts, is 111 meters long, has a maximum width of 28 meters and reaches 25 meters at its highest point.

The name Naschmarkt is documented from around 1820, which in turn may have come from the sometimes exotic sweets and goods, such as orange peel and dates marinated in sugar. Auf die Frühzeit des Marktes geht der Namen auf Aschenmarkt zurück. Einerseits kann der Name von der früheren Nutzung des Areals als Aschedeponie hergeleitet werden, möglich ist auch die Übernahme der alten Bezeichnung „Asch“ für die aus Eschenholz gefertigten Milchbehälter. In the last decade of the 19th century, the Wien river was regulated and the Wiener Stadtbahn built. It was opened in 1899. It was built in a cut on its right bank, the design was entrusted to the famous [Architekt Otto Wagner](#). His earlier plan to arch the Wien River was not realized for cost reasons. Only in the area closest to the center was the river gradually curved over a length of 2.1 km and on it is the current Naschmarkt.



The UNO-City serves as the location of many organizations of the UNO family, which promote peace, human rights and sustainable development in a variety of ways. *Its goal is to ensure the peaceful use of nuclear technology and space, end nuclear testing, end poverty and reduce the global impact of drugs, crime and terrorism.*

Between 1983 and 1987, the **Austria Center Vienna**, which had been part of the planning from the start, was built as a further building complex of the UNO-City next to the International Center VIC. *It is Austria's largest congress center* where events of all kinds can be held. Around the complex, which has been accessible since September 1982 with the U1 subway line, a new district called Donau City *was created between the Alter Donau and Neuer Donau by the year 2000*. And there is a famous part called Donauinsel. People love this area. Great *Festivals* are organised.



Last greetings from this wonderful citytour of Vienna at night.
I do hope that you may be able to visit our wonderful capital one day.
Rosemarie Kurz, living in Graz in the county STYRIA 200 km south-east of Vienna

