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Vienna: City Of The Arts

By Steven Cronin

On the banks of the Danube, Vienna and its population of over 2 million people bask proudly in their cultural heritage. Vienna's love affair with the arts stretches back centuries and helped make it today, Austria's number one tourist attraction.

A romantic imperial city, Vienna bears the hallmarks of a capital steeped in history, beautifully contrasted by its modern infrastructure.

A city of music, Vienna was home to some of history's greatest composers. Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert and Strauss were all proud to call Vienna their home.

Vienna's musical heritage has been preserved to the present day. The Vienna Boys Choir is ever popular and the Wiener Philharmoniker remains a world class orchestra.

But it's not all about classical music. Vienna boasts a vibrant nightlife that compares with the best, catering for folks of all ages, young and old.

Historically a city of culture, Vienna boasts many talents amongst its repertoire. Whatever the time of year, you can be certain the city has plenty to offer.

A theatre break is always a rewarding experience; witness the latest film and dance productions or just sit back and soak up the best of classical opera. A vast array of concerts and exhibitions are held throughout the year.

If you just want to relax and idly watch the world go by then make a beeline for one of Vienna's many coffee houses. Take the weight off your feet and exchange thoughts of the day with your fellow coffee connoisseurs.

For those in need of something a little stronger, a visit to one of the city's wine taverns will have you unwinding in no time.

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Right through history, Vienna has embraced the world of art and proudly boasts many of its own world famous artists. Through the centuries, kings and queens of Austria were passionate art collectors, rendering Austria - and Vienna in particular - a treasure trove of fine art.

Many of these masterpieces can be seen at the Museum of Fine Arts; a magnificent building exhibiting works from across the world, in particular that of its favourite sons.

Indeed, art and literature feature predominately during Vienna's history. Underground railway stations designed by Otto Wagner are listed properties; coffee house literature is digested by both young and old.

Wherever you stay in Vienna, historical landmarks are never far, many dating back to medieval times.

Set in beautiful grounds, Belvedere Palace is a magnificent example of Viennese architecture.

Designed by the famous Baroque architect Von Hildebrandt, the fabulous palace was originally built for Prince Eugene of Savoy.

Besides their love of the arts, the Viennese love to shop. Markets are scattered throughout Vienna but most popular is the Naschmarkt. Dating back to the 16th century, everything from children's shoes to apples can be purchased. If you can endure the crowds, bargains are aplenty.

Indulge in the fun and games at the Prater, Vienna's biggest funfair. If the noise and crowds become too much, escape to the open fields or take a stroll through the adjacent forest and chill out with the wildlife.

For spectacular views of the city head for the Danube Tower, known locally as the Concrete Needle. The tower is over 350 meters high; with your head in the clouds, Vienna never looked so good.

Steven Cronin owns the City Breaks website featuring city break special offers from luxury hotels to budget accommodations. For more information please visit

<http://www.sargas.co.uk>

A Visitors Guide To Vienna Austria

By Thomas Smith

Vienna is the capital of Austria, and is also one of the nine states that make up this beautiful country. When it comes to the places to be in Austria, Vienna is the answer. The city of Vienna has a population of 1.6 million people which makes it the most highly populated city in the country. And since there are so many people living in the city of Vienna, the culture is diverse enough to meet the needs of a wide variety of people.

Vienna: City Of The Arts

Before you can travel to Austria you will need to know where it is located. Believe it or not some people have no clue where Austria is, or how to get there. But generally speaking, it is not difficult to find in the slightest. Austria is located in Central Europe, and is close to countries such as Slovakia and Hungary. The close proximity to these countries helps to keep the tourism industry at a steady pace.

You can have a lot of fun in Vienna if you know what you are doing. Vienna may not be the most popular destination for vacationers, but it definitely has a lot to offer. The culture in Vienna is unlike anything else in the area, and this is what draws in tourists time and time again. The city has a long history of diverse cultures. And if you like the arts you are in the right city. The theaters of Vienna are considered to be among the best in the world, and this is especially true when it comes to the Burgtheater; this is one of the biggest attractions in the entire city among tourists. In addition to the theaters you will also want to save time to visit the museums that are home to some of the great pieces of art in the world. As you can see Vienna is full of culture.

When planning your trip to Vienna take into consideration the weather. If you are looking to go during the warmest months your best bet is anywhere from June to August. During these months temperatures are usually between 70 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit. But on the other end of things the winter months can get very cold and drop into the 30s. Visiting Vienna is fun during anytime of the year. Just make sure that you know what the weather is going to be like during your visit so that you can pack your clothes accordingly.

To get in and out of Vienna your best bet is the Vienna International Airport. Year in and year out this airport sends out and lands over 230,000 flights. This makes the Vienna International Airport one of the best in all of Central Europe.

The tourism industry in Vienna is holding steady. It may not be as great as other European cities, but Vienna does have a lot to offer. If you are interested in culture and the arts, Vienna is a city that you would fall in love with in no time.

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