



THE WORSHIPFUL SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES LIVERY COMMITTEE

The Livery Committee International Travelling Club presents

Vienna

MONDAY 17TH TO SATURDAY 22ND APRIL 2023

The Imperial City of Vienna is without question, one of Europe's great cities. Today it is an imperial city without an empire. It is a relic, but a glorious relic, and one of the world's foremost centres of art, architecture, and music. From being a Celtic settlement at around 500BC, under the Romans it became the garrison of Vindobona, one of several forts along the northern border of the empire supporting the nearby town of Carnuntum from Barbarian invasions. Following the collapse of the Roman empire, it was some centuries before the first of the two great ruling families of Vienna, the Babenbergs, emerged (881- 1246) and established Vienna as a bustling commercial town with a large number of monasteries. Capital of the Habsburg Holy Roman Empire from 1282 until the upheavals of the Napoleonic Wars and then of Austria-Hungary from 1815 to 1918, the city in the early 20th century was marked by a spate of an elegant version of art nouveau style of its own creation. The Kunsthistorisches Museum ranks with the best of Europe's art collections, and the Court Treasury in The Hofburg is without peer for its historic regalia and *objects d'art*. The great Gothic cathedral (*Stephansdom*) bears witness to the city's status in the Middle Ages as the most important city in Danubian Europe; the Church of St Charles (*Karlskirche*) and numerous Baroque palaces demonstrate that by the beginning of the 18th century Austria had become one of the great powers.

We will stay at the comfortable 4 star Hotel Am Konzerthaus located in a quite area close to Vienna's great Concert Hall. A superb buffet breakfast is served at this hotel. <https://all.accor.com/hotel/1276/index.en.shtml>

OUR PROGRAMME

DAY 1: Monday 17 April

Arrival and private coach transfer to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2: Tuesday 18 April – We leave by metro for a short ride to Schwedenplatz to visit **St. Stephen's Cathedral** (*Stephansdom*) originally built in the 12th century. The great fire of 1258 destroyed most of the Romanesque building and the rebuilding programme of the 14th and 15th centuries added Gothic and Baroque style parts we can see today. Later we enter the vast **Hofburg Complex** for viewing the Imperial Apartments, the Silver and Porcelain collection and the museum dedicated to Empress Elisabeth (*Sisi*). Lunch is provided. After lunch we continue to the Treasury which holds sacred and secular treasures amassed during centuries of Habsburg rule including the crown jewels. The **Prunksaal** was commissioned as the court library in the early 18th century and is the largest Baroque library in Europe containing some 2.6 million books.

Dinner at a local restaurant.



The Hofburg

DAY 3: Wednesday 19 April – This morning we travel by coach to the majestic 18th century **Schönbrunn Palace**, the former summer residence of the imperial family and where we will also have lunch at a nearby restaurant. We return to the hotel by 15:30 for some free time before travelling later by local tram to the **Opera House** to attend a performance of *Carmen* which is included in our arrangements.

DAY 4: Thursday 20 April – Today we leave by private coach and our first visit will be to the **Church of St. Leopold am Steinhof**, designed by Otto Wagner in 1903 and considered amongst one of the most important Art Nouveau churches in the world. Later we travel to the area of Hütteldorf for viewing Otto Wagner's villa (exterior only) and that of the artist Gustav Klimt in Ober St. Veit. Lunch will be provided in the area before continuing to the 18th century **Belvedere Palace** built as the summer residence of Prince Eugene of Savoy. Situated on a gently sloping hill, the Belvedere consists of two palaces (upper and lower) linked by an amazing vast French style garden. We will visit the Upper Belvedere with its impressive interiors such

as the Sala Terrena, the Chapel and the Marble Hall. One of the highlights here is the marvellous **Gustav Klimt Collection** on display including his famous painting "The Kiss". Dinner in hotel.



The Belvedere Palace

Day 5: Friday 21 April – This morning we travel by local tram to the **Kunsthistorisches Museum**, the largest and the most visited city museum housing a vast collection of works of art including paintings (from 15th to 18th centuries), medieval artefacts, Egyptians, Greek and Roman antiquities, and natural history exhibits. Lunch is arranged inside the museum in its splendid restaurant. Later we return to the hotel area by tram to visit the impressive



Karlskirche

early 18th century baroque church of **Karlskirche** which took 25 years to build. A farewell dinner will be served at the oldest of the city's restaurants, namely the 400 years old *Griechenbeisl*, where we will travel by coach.

Day 6: Saturday 22 April –

Late morning, we leave our hotel by coach with our luggage to attend a performance of Lipizzaner horses at the Spanish Riding School, either a training session or a standard performance, depending on what event will be published for this date. Later we re-join the coach and travel to the roman



city of **Carnuntum**, located some 25 miles outside the city. Here we have lunch at Marcus Aurelius restaurant before the start of our visit to the site which features some superbly detailed, evidence-based reconstructions of roman houses (including furniture), shops and baths as well as the remains of a roman arch and amphitheatre. Later we continue to the airport in time for our flight departing at 19:55.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- BA flights in standard cabin with 23kg of checked luggage: 17 April BA700 Heathrow / Vienna 10:20 / 13:50
- 22 April BA705 Vienna / Heathrow 19:55 / 21:25
- 5 nights' accommodation in 4* Hotel Am Konzerthaus
- Four dinners and five lunches with drinks
- Private coach transport
- Public city transport pass valid for tram & metro
- All entrance fees in line with the programme
- Opera tickets of median value (es. tiered second row circle)
- Spanish Riding School tickets
- Local professional guide; personal audio system
- Gratuities, except for driver and guide

Millennium Tours Director Tony Giamb Bruno will accompany us.

This visit is proposed on behalf of the Livery Committee International Travelling Club and it will be possible if we have a minimum of 25 participants. If you are interested in joining us, please contact tony@millenniumtours.co.uk and you will be sent an application form to book. Party number will be limited to 30 members max, and participants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Practicalities:

- (1) PRICE £1,695 PER PERSON SHARING STANDARD DOUBLE ROOM.
- (2) SOLO TRAVELLER SUPPLEMENT £295 (DOUBLE ROOM FOR SINGLE USE).
- (3) DEPOSIT OF £350 PER PERSON PAYABLE UPON BOOKING.
- (4) OPERATED BY MILLENNIUM TOURS LTD – ATOL 10040