

May 2012

"Spring Feeling on our Sun Terrace"



Vienna surely offers countless possibilities: exploratory tours, museum visits, shopping excursions – **but sometimes it can be as simple as a quiet little place to relax and enjoy.**

We've opened **our terrace** once again for you. Colorful spring flowers and fragrant herbs have been planted and the oleander fetched from the winter quarters. Tables and chairs together with deckchairs and sun parasols invite you to linger and let you immediately forget that you're right in the middle of a hectic city center.

"It Feels like Spring - or even Summer - in our Guest Rooms too!"

After having completed our general spring cleaning, our housekeeping ladies didn't just sit back and do nothing but continued to work diligently.

Our cuddly and warm down-blankets have been replaced with **fragrant, feather-light summer down-blankets**. Matching sunny-yellow bed linen and sheets shine everywhere with the windows brought to a brilliant **summery polish** just right with the weather.



"Vienna - Up Close and PERSONAL" - Heavenly Panoramas ath Kahlenberg



Kahlenberg lies in the Vienna Woods and **is one of the most popular excursion destinations of the Viennese**. That's primarily because of the magnificent view: on clear days one can see not just the entire city from above but also the Schneeberg where Vienna's mountain spring water comes from.

For our sporty / physically-active guests, this place lets you discover the Stadtwanderweg (city hiking trail) 1 on foot. The approximately 4-hour hike will be rewarded with a superb view from the **Panorama-Terrace** or with a visit of

the **Stefaniewarte** (Stefanie Observatory) or the baroque **St. Josefskirche** (St. Joseph's Church).

For those who can't rely on their legs, take Bus Line 38A from Heiligenstadt and maybe walk further to the neighboring **Leopoldsberg** with the Leopoldsberg Castle.

"Current and upcoming EVENTS/HAPPENINGS in Vienna in May 2012"



Interested in music, theater, the opera, museums, and exhibitions?

We'll be happy to **keep you informed** about **all the dates / schedules** and perhaps even let you in on a **few secrets** too...

Hoch- und Deutschmeister band

Just like in the old days during the reign of the emperors, every Saturday, the original Hoch- und Deutschmeister march through Kohlmarkt to the Inner Court of the Imperial Palace -- while playing melodies by Franz Lehár, Robert Stolz, and Johann Strauss.

Every Saturday from May 5 to October 6, the band assembles at 11 am on **Graben (corner Kohlmarkt)** in the center of the old city to play music in the Kohlmarkt and then march through the Michaelertor and the Inneres Burgtor in the Hofburg. This is followed by a **40-minute recital** of works by the **Strausses** as well as Franz Lehár, Carl Michael Ziehrer and Robert Stolz.



The band then marches back to the **Michaelerplatz** around 12 noon. The history of the band, with 35 musicians aged 19 to 82 years, goes back to the year 1741.

Of interest to music insiders is the fact that the instruments used, costing between € 3,000 and € 4,000 a piece, are all custom-made. They are tuned a semitone higher than usual which means they can be heard from a considerable way off.

May 5 until October 6, 2012

every Saturday 11 am

1st district: Michaelerplatz/Kohlmarkt/Hofburg

www.deutschmeister.at

Vienna Festival concerts



The Vienna Festival concerts in 2012 are something special because the Musikverein is also celebrating its 200th anniversary this year. The Vienna Philharmonic will play at the opening. Anna Netrebko and Angelika Kirchschlager will perform evenings of song.

As an essential part of the Vienna Festival, the Vienna Festival concerts will be held in the Musikverein from **6 May to 17 June**. Kicking off the series is **maestro Riccardo Muti** and the **Vienna Philharmonic** with a program that has a special connection with the Musikverein: Schubert's "Grand C-Major Symphony" was dedicated to the Society of the Friends of Music, the score Joseph Haydn's Trumpet Concerto is amongst the treasures of the

Musikverein archive and Antonio Salieri, two of whose cantatas will be performed, was a significant figure in the history of its founding.

Historical splendor: 200 years of the Musikverein

Such connections with the grand history of the Musikverein set the tone at the Vienna Festival concerts: Schönberg's "**Gurre-Lieder**" had their premiere performance in 1913 in the Golden Room, as did most of the nine **Bruckner symphonies**, performed this year by Daniel Barenboim and the Staatskapelle Berlin - combined with Mozart piano concertos.

As usual at the Musikverein, the performers are outstanding: from opera star **Anna Netrebko** to her mezzo-colleague **Angelika Kirchschlager** and from tenor Ian Bostridge to pianists such as **Rudolf Buchbinder** and Maurizio Pollini. The other **62 concert evenings** also offer classical pleasure with a first-class cast.

Vienna Festival concerts 2012, 6 May - 17 June 2012

www.musikverein.at

Festival with Cate Blanchett

From 11 May, the Vienna Festival will be showing contemporary stage art. Hollywood flair is provided by Cate Blanchett. Peter Handke, Paulus Hochgatterer and Ulrich Seidl contribute world premieres.

The elite of opera and theater directors, conductors and orchestras set international standards during the Vienna Festival 2012 with 36 modern productions and new works. Performances will be held at around 20 locations across Vienna: from the Burgtheater to the MuseumsQuartier to outdoor venues.



At the free **open-air opening** on 13 May at the Rathausplatz will be the grand final of the classical music competition "**Eurovision Young Musicians Competition**", with the ORF Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna accompanying the seven young soloists. Percussion genius **Martin Grubinger** moderates and plays, and the septet Mnozil Brass performs extraordinary brass music.

The **musical theater program** consists of Verdi's "La Traviata" in the series by Deborah Warner and the contemporary opera "Quartett" by Luca Francesconi.

The big star in the **drama program** is the Australian actress **Cate Blanchett**: She plays the lead in Botho Strauss' classic "Big and Small". Theater premieres are provided by Peter **Handke** ("Die schönen Tage von Aranjuez"), Ulrich **Seidl** ("Böse Buben") and Paulus **Hochgatterer** ("Makulatur"). Christoph Marthaler stages Ödon von Horváth's "Glaube, Liebe, Hoffnung".

11 May - 17 June 2012

Various venues

Tel. +43 1 589 22 22

www.festwochen.at

Life Ball celebrates its anniversary



On 19 May, Europe's shrillest charity event will already be held for the 20th time in Vienna. Numerous star guests from all over the world will be attending the anniversary. On the evening prior to the Life Ball, a benefit concert will be held in the Burgtheater - with opera stars such as Patricia Petibon, actress Melanie Griffith and many more.

Under the slogan "Fight the Flames of Ignorance", the party on **19 May at and in front of Vienna's City Hall** promises to be shrill, colourful and loud, in order to generate donations for Aids relief projects and to promote public awareness of the disease. The Life Ball is **Europe's largest Aids charity event** and is dedicated to the **element of fire** in 2012.

For the 20th anniversary, the **"Red Ribbon Celebration Concert"** will be held for the first time on the evening prior to the Life Ball in the Burgtheater. In addition to the Vienna Philharmonic under the direction of Loius Langrée and Malcolm Martineau on the piano, international opera stars, such as Patricia Petibon, Bernarda Fink, Michael Schade and Florian Boesch will be performing, as well as **soul and jazz greats**, Randy Crawford and Al Jarreau. The actresses, **Melanie Griffith** and Sunnyi Melles and the actor, Gert Voss, will perform short readings in between the musical performances.

The big **opening show at City Hall**, with numerous appearances by international stars and a fashion show, is open to the public. In the past, **top designers**, such as Jean Paul Gaultier, Vivienne Westwood or Versace have organised the glamorous show on the catwalk, stars such as Sharon Stone, Bill Clinton and Elton John have visited the Life Ball several times. Every year, 40,000 onlookers follow the colourful goings-on at the Rathausplatz (City Hall Square).

Red Carpet from 7.30 pm

Opening show at the Rathausplatz (City Hall Square) at 9.30 pm

www.lifeball.org, Inspiration for unusual outfits: www.stylebible.org

Red Ribbon Celebration Concert

18 May 2012, 7 pm

Genussfestival

At the beginning of May, the Vienna Stadtpark will be turned into a place of epicurean delights: The "Genussfestival" will be a showcase for select culinary specialties from Austria.

Tasty Vienna escargot and ham, Waldviertler gray poppyseed oil, Carinthian honey, saffron from Wachau, spicy cheese from Vorarlberg: At the "Vienna Genussfestival" from **May 11 to 13, 2012**, the best **Austrian food producers** and small manufactories invite you to sample and savor in one of the city's prettiest parks. In addition to about 100 exhibitors, **top Austrian chefs** will serve you regional specialties.



The 2012 **Genussfestival** is being held for the fifth time; last year there were over 130,000 visitors in the **Stadtpark**. Demonstrations and tastings will be held throughout this festival of pleasure. **The School of Taste** offers a special program for children.

The Stadtpark is Vienna's oldest public park; it was created in about 1860 when the Vienna city walls were torn down and the Ringstrasse was built. The city's perhaps most photographed monument is also located here - the gold-plated statue of the king of waltz, Johann Strauss.

May 11-13, 2012

Fri. noon - 9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free admission

www.genuss-festival.at

Vienna Harley Days



For motorbike enthusiasts, Vienna will be the center of the universe from 10 to 13 May, when the Vienna Harley Days hit the stages with much live rock, country and blues music. The highlight is a large motorcycle parade on Vienna's Ringstrasse, where hundreds of bikers will present their machines in an imperial setting.

The Vienna Harley Days start on 11 May with the **Capital Ride**: Bikers join in a **rally** from all parts of Austria to Vienna, where they ride together to Danube Island. This year's giant **festival tent city** of the Vienna Harley Days will be erected near the Reichsbrücke. This is where motorcycle

fans find everything their hearts desire: The latest Harley models from the USA stand ready for a **test ride**, numerous live shows with **motorbike acrobatics** thrill the crowd, and the **sales stands** offer clothing and accessories.

A **food zone** keeps stomachs happy, while **Rock, Country and Blues bands** provide the right ambience on the large open-air stage. The highlight of the Vienna Harley Days is the large **motorcycle parade** along Vienna's Ringstrasse - an imposing imperial boulevard that will be closed to regular traffic especially for this event.

10-13 May 2012

daily from 12.00 noon to 10.00 pm

Danube Island at the Reichsbrücke

U1: Danube Island

Free admission

www.vienna-harley-days.at

Motorcycle parade on the Ringstrasse

12 May 2012

Meet: from 11.30 am at the Reichsbrücke

Start: 1.00 pm

Helmet must be worn!

art austria art fair

The art austria art fair presents five days of Austrian art from the 19th century to the present in the Leopold Museum.

From 9 to 13 May, the Leopold Museum is once again a Mecca for collectors of Austrian art. art austria is being held for the fifth time. Around **50 renowned exhibitors**, including some of the best galleries in Austria, will attract a large crowd again this year.

The exclusive presentation of Austrian artists is the unique selling point of this **specialist art fair**. Works from the Art Nouveau, Biedermeier and Classicism periods stand alongside contemporary works.

9.-13.5.2012

Opening times:

We, 9 May: 10.00 am - 6.00 pm

Th, 10 May: 10.00 am - 9.00 pm

Fr, 11 May - Su, 13 May: 10.00 am - 6.00 pm

Admission to art austria also covers admission to the Leopold Museum.



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