

Vienna & Salzburg

Palaces, Villas, and Gardens

September 6–13, 2023



Heritage Tours
by American Ancestors



DICAMILLO
TRAVEL

ITINERARY

Wednesday, September 6

Arrive in Vienna and transfer independently to the **Hotel Imperial** (rooms available for check-in after 3:00 p.m.). In the afternoon we'll learn from a local historian about Vienna's remarkable 19th-century makeover during a **guided walking tour of the Ringstrasse**, where we'll see many important edifices from the city's imperial era (including our own hotel!). Our guide will then broaden our perspective with brief stops at buildings from different historic periods, including the Musikverein, the Karlskirche, and the Secession Building, where we'll see Gustav Klimt's famed *Beethoven Frieze*. Our day ends with a private opening of the grand theater of the **State Opera House** – a memorable first look at Austria's magnificent musical heritage. Finally, we'll celebrate our arrival with a festive welcome dinner at our hotel's gourmet restaurant, *Opus*.

Thursday, September 7

We'll spend our morning exploring the beautiful architecture and stately interiors of the **Hofburg Palace**, the primary city residence of Austria's royal family – the Habsburgs. Our tour will focus on the history of the palace and its unique architecture and interior decoration. Included will be the historic state apartments, the royal library, majestic event spaces, and the Austrian crown jewels. Our final stop will be inside the soaring **State Hall of the Austrian National Library**, one of Vienna's most grandiose spaces.

Next, we'll step into classical Viennese café culture with a stop for a traditional Viennese lunch at the historic **Café Landtman**, which, since its opening in 1873, has been a popular hangout for the city's creative types, from Gustav Mahler to Sigmund Freud.

After lunch we'll have a visit to the **private collection of the Liechtenstein family**, one of Vienna's wealthiest noble families. Housed inside resplendent palace interiors, the collection, which is not open to the public, features works by Raphael, Frans Hals, and Rubens.

Our final stop today is the historic **Burgtheater**, known for its delightful airy architecture and for Gustav Klimt's often overlooked ceiling frescoes in the grand staircases.

We'll return to the Hotel Imperial for dinner and the evening on your own. *For those interested in a special musical experience this evening, there is the extra-cost option of attending an evening concert of Mozart and Strauss at the beautiful Palais Auersperg.*

Friday, September 8

This morning we begin the day in style with a special early opening of the legendary **Belvedere Palace**, the crème de la crème of Habsburg luxury, where our guide will lead an in-depth tour of the art and architecture of this amazing building (we will be the only people



Karlskirche (photo by Andreas N)



Palais-Liechtenstein (photo by Jordan Cook)



Statue of Johan Strauss



Gustav Klimt's *The Kiss* (1907-1908) at the Belvedere Palace



St. Stephen's Cathedral (photo by BWag)



Schloss Hof (photo by Christiane Jodl)

in the palace for an entire hour!). Inside we will discover the art of Schiele and Klimt, as well as the shocking collection of sculpted heads by the Enlightenment artist Messerschmidt. There will also be time to stroll through the gardens and learn about the Habsburg family's commitment to culture, arts, literature, and music. Back in central Vienna, we'll visit a glorious **family-owned palace for a private tour**, followed by lunch in one of the palace's impressive painted rooms – a special look inside elegant Viennese society.

After lunch, we'll make a brief stop inside the soaring **St. Stephen's Cathedral**, nestled in the very heart of the old city center, before we continue to Michaelersplatz Square for a look at **Looshaus**, the groundbreaking residential building designed in 1912 by the modernist trailblazer Adolf Loos.

We will complete our day with a private after-hours opening of the magical **Kunsthistorisches Museum**. Our visit will begin while the museum is still open to the public, but, after the doors close, we'll have an hour to view the very best pieces in the collection by ourselves. Highlights will include masterpieces by Titian, Rembrandt, Rubens, Brughel, and many others. Perhaps the grandest part of the collection is the famous **Kunstkammer**, one of the world's most remarkable collections of decorative arts.

This evening we will celebrate our stay in Vienna with a dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant atop a skyscraper overlooking the old city of Vienna.

Saturday, September 9

Today is dedicated to summer estates and country villas outside the city of Vienna, which will provide a different view on this corner of Austria. We'll begin with a guided tour of the graceful **Schoenbrunn Palace**, the Habsburgs' grandiose summer residence in the immediate outskirts of the city. After a stroll past the estate's famous fountains, statues, and parterres, we will tour the sumptuous state rooms and princely apartments, whose masterwork-filled rooms will bring to life the opulence of the 18th and 19th-century imperial court.

In the hills just outside the city the **Otto Wagner Villa** is our next destination. This one-of-a-kind blend of Palladian elegance and Jugendstil exuberance is a delightful private museum housed in a country home. Here we will have a private tour before returning to Vienna for a light lunch at a charming café near our hotel.

After lunch we'll take an excursion outside the city to one of Austria's greatest, but less-visited Baroque wonders – the palace of **Schloss Hof**. The former country house of Prince Eugene of Savoy, the hunting estate, close to the Hungarian border, includes a beautiful two-story palace and a still-functioning farm.

We will return to Vienna in the early evening, where dinner and the remainder of the day is on your own.

Sunday, September 10

This morning we'll check out of the Hotel Imperial and travel 200 miles westward through the beautiful mountains and valleys of northern Austria to Salzburg. We will spend much of the morning at the iconic **Abbey of Melk**, one of Europe's most important ancient religious houses. Sitting high above the River Danube, the complex is famous for its lavish Baroque architecture and its outstanding historic library.

Not far away is one of this part of Austria's loveliest private castle estates, the 12th century **Burg Clam**, where the owners will host us for a private lunch before giving us a guided tour of the castle's imposing interiors. After we leave Burg Clam we'll continue our drive westward, crossing through mountainous landscapes, arriving in the enchanting old city of Salzburg in the late afternoon, where we will check into the grand **Goldener Hirsch Hotel**. Tonight, after free time to stroll through the beautiful streets and squares of Salzburg, we will gather in a private space in the hotel for an elegant dinner.

Monday, September 11

Our Monday begins when we meet our local guide for an in-depth **walking tour of Salzburg's historic city center**, where we will see the cathedral and the city's best examples of Baroque architecture. The remainder of the day will be on your own to enjoy Salzburg, with its vibrant streets and shops, fascinating museums, and unmatched Old World charm.

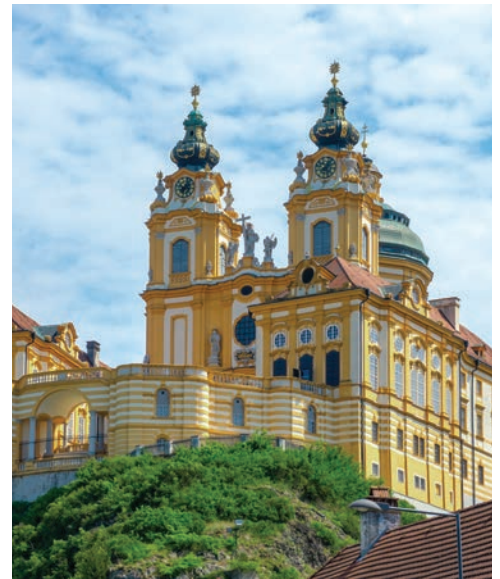
Tuesday, September 12

Just across the River Salzach from our hotel is the lovely **Mirabell Palace**, which features one of Austria's most precious city gardens. Here we'll have a guided stroll through the gardens and a brief look inside the palace to see the lovely Marble Hall and adjoining Angels Staircase.

Not far outside Salzburg lies the garden of **Hellbrunn Palace**, unique for its functioning 1619 "trick fountains." Notoriously difficult to maintain and preserve, these fountains, created to please noble visitors, still work as originally intended and are an exceptionally rare example of Baroque engineering and garden design.

Next, we'll stop at a country restaurant with unforgettable mountain views for a delicious light lunch. In the afternoon, we'll discover that the hills are most definitely alive as we follow in the mythical footsteps of the Von Trapps in search of glorious panoramas and hidden mountain glens that inspired *The Sound of Music*.

We'll return to Salzburg, where this evening, we celebrate our journey through Austria with a farewell dinner in a private room inside one of Salzburg's finest restaurants.



Abbey of Melk (photo by Leonhard Niederwimmer)



Salzburg (photo by Chiem Seherin)



Open Air Theatre at Hellbrunn Palace



Salzburg Mountains (photo by Laci Dome)

Wednesday, September 13

Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the Goldener Hirsch. While travelers are welcome to arrange for return flights from the Salzburg airport (SZG, which offers one-connection return flights to major U.S. hubs, including Boston), we are providing, as part of the tour price, a mid-morning transfer (2.5-hour drive) to the Munich airport to meet the scheduled afternoon nonstop Lufthansa flight to Boston. Those taking this transfer will arrive about three (3) hours prior to the flight's scheduled departure time.

ABOUT OUR TOUR LEADER



Curt DiCamillo

Curt is the Curator of Special Collections at New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS). Before he came to NEHGS he worked for the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and the National Trust for Scotland. Curt is a noted historian and a recognized authority on the British country house, about which he has written, lectured, and taught in the U.S. and abroad. Since 1999 he has maintained an award-winning database on the web, TheDiCamillo.com, which seeks to document every English, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish country house ever built, standing or demolished. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in the World*, is a Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and a member of the Council of the American Museum in Britain.

ACCOMMODATION



Hotel Imperial, Vienna

Originally built in the 1860s as a princely palace, Hotel Imperial has been one of Vienna's grandest hotels for well over a century. Its sophisticated classical design and perfect Ringstrasse location make it one of the finest hotel choices in the city. The hotel's sumptuous 19th-century interiors, grand staircases, and attentive white-glove service provide a magnificent home base for cultural touring in Vienna.



Hotel Goldener Hirsch, Salzburg

Renowned as one of the very finest hotels in Austria, the Goldener Hirsch is located in the very heart of historic Salzburg, within easy walking distance of all the old city's charming restaurants, sights, and shops. The building itself dates back to the 15th century, but the hotel received a top-to-bottom renovation in 2019, reopening in full 21st-century splendor. The hotel's interiors are designed in traditional Salzburg style with contemporary twists, and with only 70 rooms, the hotel offers an intimate luxury setting and personalized service.

VIENNA & SALZBURG: PALACES, VILLAS, AND GARDENS September 6-13, 2023

Tour Cost:

Land Package: \$9,995

Single Supplement: \$1,695

Tour price is per person, based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 12 paying participants.

Deposit & Final Payment: A deposit of \$2,000 per person is required to reserve a spot on the tour. Deposits are payable by check or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, or American Express). Final balance will be invoiced and is due on May 30, 2023. Final balance payments are payable by check only to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations will be accepted beyond this date on a space-available basis.

Activity Level: Moderate; good walking ability is advised. Some museum and palace visits require use of staircases, and there will be a limited amount of walking on uneven ground during mountain touring.

Flights: Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their round-trip air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed.

Terms & Conditions: New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) and International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) require that all tour participants be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate on the tour. Upon receipt of registration, ISDI will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ISDI before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

Travel Insurance: Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, NEHGS and ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be sent upon tour registration.

Tour Price Inclusions: 4 nights' accommodation at the Hotel Imperial, Vienna; 3 nights' accommodation at the Hotel Goldener Hirsch, Salzburg; breakfast daily, 5 lunches, 4 dinners; wine or beer at included lunches and dinners; land transportation by private motor coach or sprinter van; transfer from Salzburg to Munich airport by private coach; entrance fees to sites and visits listed in the itinerary; special opening fees; leadership of Curt DiCamillo for duration of the tour; services of an American Ancestors/NEHGS tour manager; expert local guides for all touring; gratuities for guides and drivers and at included meals; handling of 2 pieces of luggage per person upon arrival and departure from the hotel; bottled water on coach; service charges and taxes.

Tour Price Exclusions: Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; airport portage; passport or visa fees; transfer from the Vienna airport to the Hotel Imperial; transfer to departure airport for individuals not using the group transfer to Munich; meals other than those specified in the itinerary; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; entry or departure fees levied by local governments; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

Cancellations & Refunds: Cancellation by participant must be made in writing to NEHGS and is effective only upon acknowledged receipt by NEHGS. There is a non-refundable registration and planning fee of \$500 per person regardless of cancellation date. Written cancellation received by NEHGS on or before May 30, 2023: full refund minus \$500 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by NEHGS between May 31 and July 21, 2023: full refund minus \$5,000 per person cancellation fee (includes registration and planning fee). Written cancellations received by NEHGS on or after July 22, 2023: no refund. Tour registration is non-transferable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not allowed. After the tour has commenced, no refunds will be issued for any reason including, but not limited to, unused portions of tour. If the tour is cancelled by NEHGS or ISDI due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

For more information:

Cy Britt, Director of Heritage Tours
New England Historic Genealogical Society
99-101 Newbury Street • Boston, MA 02116
Office: (617) 226-1267
Email: Cy.Britt@nehgs.org