

English Programme

The Society of Museum-Friends (Verein der Museumsfreunde) has a history of over 110 years of supporting museums, art and culture in Vienna and beyond. It has been offering some 30 tours and other events every month and is now starting to offer selected events in English to give an international audience a warm welcome! Over time, we are hoping to expand this programme.

Art needs international friends!

Embark with us on a journey of discovery into the world of art and culture, experience exciting things with like-minded people and help to promote art and preserve it for future generations.

Become a member to take advantage of our programme!

www.museumsfreunde.at

Tuesday, 18 April 2023, 4.00 pm
Guided Tour with Teodora Weyr

Details see our programme!

Sustainable Development Goals

Vienna's Past Holds a Key to How We Approach Today's Global Challenges

Some say Vienna is beholden to her past, but the city also sees in its past a path toward the future. We know from history that Vienna has overcome major challenges, many similar to those our interconnected world faces today: lack of clean water and sanitation, inadequate housing, plague and epidemics. The forward thinking, innovation and perseverance exhibited then may give us – and future generations – the hope we need in our fast-moving times.

In 2015, the member countries of the United Nations adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These aim to improve the lives of people around the world through education, health care, clean water and sustainable cities. Vienna is both a strong supporter of these UN goals and in many ways a trailblazer in showing how these goals can be achieved.

Let's take a walk back in time to see how people in the Middle Ages coped with a lack of sanitation and clean water among the narrow streets of the old city. What innovations pioneered by the Romans were revived in the 19th century to provide Vienna with the pure water it is known for today? What was revolutionary about the concepts of "Red Vienna"? Who were the drivers behind measures to stem the spread of disease in the 17th and 18th centuries? What can an eagle on the Graben teach us about conserving wildlife? Seeing how challenges were overcome in the past may give us hope for achieving the sustainable development goals that aim to provide a liveable planet for our children, and theirs, in the future.



Wasserwellen-Lebens-Brunnen
by Hans Muhr
© Teodora Weyr

Vienna Opera House

Special Insights and Outlooks

Take a look behind the scenes of the world's largest repertory operation and discover much that otherwise remains hidden from the evening opera-goer during a guided tour of the Vienna State Opera. You will learn a lot of interesting facts about the history of the house, its architecture and the opera business. From the foyer, you will walk up the grand staircase through the state rooms (Tea Salon, Marble Hall, Schwindfoyer, Gustav Mahler Hall) to the auditorium (with a view of the stage).



Vienna Opera House,
Tea Salon
© wikimedia

Artworks at the UN in Vienna

Are you an art lover wishing to discover and enjoy the fine collection of artworks from around the world that is housed at the Vienna International Centre (VIC)?

The UN Vienna art collection was started by Austria, the host country, as a representation of Austrian contemporary art trends at the time of the VIC's opening, back in 1979. Since then many other Member States have added their own contributions to the collection, creating a unique mix of artistic styles, forms of expressions and cultural traditions. The pieces coexist in an environment as diverse as the art itself.

The collection includes works by Austrian modern masters such as Rudolf Hausner, Alfred Hrdlicka, Martha Jungwirth, Friedensreich Hundertwasser, Hermann Nitsch, Marcus Prachensky, Max Weiler and many more. Other highlights include a beautiful depiction of the "Ho-o Raigi" sacred birds by Japanese artist Sagenji Yoshida; a Scholar's Pavilion built as a "Chartaghi", a typical characteristic of Iranian architecture; and a Mongolian "Gerege" used as a diplomatic passport in the times of Genghis Khan.



Yoshida Sagenji, *Ho-o Raigi - Sacred Birds*
© UNIS Vienna

Monday, 24 April 2023, 2.00 pm
Guided Tour with
Gerhild Michelitsch

Details see our programme!

Wednesday, 3 May 2023, 3.30 pm
Guided Tour with Teodora Weyr

Details see our programme!

Important information

When preparing for an on-site visit to the VIC, please bear in mind the following:

- You will have to pass a security check requiring a valid official identification document
- COVID prevention measures must be observed by all visitors to the VIC. Please consult www.unvienna.org/visit right before your tour date to check for the latest update.
- As the security check might get busy, we recommend arriving at the VIC at least 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time of the tour.
- Small bags may be carried on tour. For security reasons there is no possibility to store luggage at the VIC.