

May 2009

## Discover Vienna on a bicycle!



Can anything else be better than to **discover Vienna while riding a bicycle in this wonderful May weather?** About and around the Ringroad, or on a small expedition at the Danube island, or even to one of the countless “Heurigen” (local guesthouses/pubs) – rent our **brand-new red-white “Stadtflitzer”** (city-streaker) and you’re ready to go. Twenty-one gears, halogen lights, spacious carrier, security lock, and bike helmet will provide for your needed comfort and safety.

Our reception staff will be pleased to provide you with a Vienna bike card and route tips.

## It looks so green...

...not only when Spain’s flowers bloom, but also when the **terrace season again begins at Hotel AUSTRIA**. We have taken our oleander and rosebush from their winter quarters and will turn our terrace with our newly planted spring flowers into a blooming, green oasis.

We’ve also got **new tablecloths** and **new, comfortable seat cushions**; a **big parasol** will provide shade when needed. Get yourself a relaxing afternoon rest or let your day slowly pass by and enjoy the peace and quiet with a glass of good wine or cup of coffee!



## “Vienna – up close and personal!”



An extremely close look for you this time: the **“Hundertwasserhaus” at the Löwengasse/ Kegelgasse**.

This can be found in the vicinity of Prater in the third district of Vienna. This externally **extraordinary, colorful, and plant-abundant house** will immediately stand out in your eyes among all the gray and standard city buildings. From the inside, it also does not meet the usual norms of architecture. There are very distinctive windows, onion domes and jutties, even partly wave-like floorings and

skewed walls. The 19 roof gardens have a total of 250 trees and bushes and wood, ceramic, glass, and bricks were used as building materials.

Planned and built by Architect Joseph Krawina, the painter Friedensreich was responsible for the design. It can only be viewed from the outside, however, since it is a public residential apartment owned by the municipality.

Whoever would like to see and know more should make a detour of almost **400 meters further** towards **Kunsthau Wien**, which was also designed from Hundertwasser and which presents its works of art.

## Current happenings in Vienna in May 2009



Interested in music, theatre, the opera, museums or exhibits?

We know **all the schedules** and gladly look forward to your reservations at **your HOTEL AUSTRIA!**

### Picasso's graphics at KunstHaus Wien

**Be they mythical creatures, centaurs or bull fights, Picasso documented them all in a variety of styles in his graphics over the course of fifty years. From April 3 until July 5, 2009, KunstHaus Wien will show around 120 works of the legendary Spanish painter that demonstrate the change in motifs over time.**



Picasso not only created numerous variations of his favorite motifs, such as centaurs or female nudes. The relationship between the artist and model was always a central theme of his creations. This is exactly what changed so much over the years. The change can be observed especially well in the series of a hundred graphics - the so-called "Suite Vollard" - created for the publisher and art dealer Ambroise Vollard between 1930 and 1937. It is at the heart of the exhibition at KunstHaus Wien, which presents not only brilliant temporary exhibitions but also shows a permanent collection of the works by Hundertwasser.

Pablo Picasso, who was raised in Malaga but emigrated to Paris as a young artist in 1904, was known as a wild expressionist and cubist even during his lifetime. Today his works are sold at art auctions for amounts in the double-digit millions.

**KunstHaus Wien**, [www.kunsthausewien.com](http://www.kunsthausewien.com)

**April 3 to July 5, 2009**, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily

### Vienna Festival 2009 with Kafka, Kleist and Shakespeare



**Artistic variety is the key: The spectacular open-air opening on the Rathausplatz on 8 May is followed until 14 June by 178 performances from 28 countries – opera, concerts, theatre, dance, shows and an exhibition.**

**Major artists** will once again be at the festival, including Bruno Beltrão, Philippe Boesmans, Heiner Goebbels, Christoph Marthaler, Robert Lepage, Alvis Hermanis, Philippe Quesne, Peter Sellars, Peter Stein and Krzysztof Warlikowski. Through their works they show that **music, theatre and performance** are spiritual places that not only take one's mind off things, but stir up fantasy.

Amongst the top-class names on the programme of plays are Peter Stein's Berlin production of **Kleist's "Der zerbrochene Krug"** with Klaus Maria Brandauer, which is coming to the Theater an der Wien as a guest performance. At the Theater Akzent, you can experience **Shakespeare's "Othello"**, directed by Peter Sellars. Andreas Kriegenburg's hit production of "Der Prozess" after Franz Kafka will play at the Volkstheater and Jürgen Gosch's "Uncle Vanya" after Anton Chekov in Hall E in the MuseumsQuartier.

The **music programme** is devoted to Aeneas, who cannot tell Dido the reasons for his departure and his change in mood: “Dido and Aeneas” by Henry Purcell in the production by Deborah Warner, the Austrian premiere of Philippe Boesmans’ “Yvonne, die Burgunderprinzessin” and Heiner Goebbel’s “I went to the house but did not enter”.

“Into the City”, “Forum Festwochen”, the exhibition “Ich bin ganz wo anders – Jam krejt dikund tjeter” and the **film series** “Die Filme von Wassili Schuschkin” complete the offering.

**Vienna Festival 2009**, 8 May to 14 June 2009

Various venues, [www.festwochen.at](http://www.festwochen.at)

## Life Ball 2009

**The Vienna Life Ball – Europe's most extravagant AIDS charity event – will present spectacular outfits, an extra-classy fashion show and cool beats on May 16.**

At this extraordinary event, **world stars** such as Sharon Stone, Sir Elton John, Catherine Deneuve, Liza Minnelli, Heidi Klum and Naomi Campbell are meeting for a rendezvous.

This year the vibrant, glamorous, erotic and infinitely **creative party** is celebrated with the motto of “The element of water”, transforming the historical atmosphere of the Vienna City Hall into a fabulous dance palace.



The event's opening ceremony and highlight consist of the **opulent fashion show** at the Vienna City Hall Square. A gigantic runway will be erected here and around 40,000 visitors will be able to enjoy the Life Ball fashion show **free of charge**. **World-famous celebrities from the designer world** such as Donatella Versace, Jean Paul Gaultier, Vivienne Westwood, Roberto Cavalli and, last year, Joseph Corrés for Agent Provocateur have so far been in charge of the creations.

**Life Ball, May 16, 2009**

1., City Hall and City Hall square

Information about the tickets for Life Ball: [www.lifeball.org](http://www.lifeball.org)<http://www.lifeball.org/>

## A park for gourmets



**At the beginning of May, the Stadtpark will be transformed into a gourmet's paradise. The Wiener Genussfestival features exquisite culinary treats from all over Austria.**

The Stadtpark, located on Vienna's Ringstrasse boulevard, will be transformed into a gourmet's paradise from May 8 to 10, 2009. Local producers, small **manufacturers**, and **top chefs** will be presenting Austria's culinary specialties in attractive, pagoda-style tents. Some 130 producers will be on hand for the second annual gourmet festival. Austria's **culinary regions** extend an invitation to taste, discuss, eat and drink.

Live **classical music** will provide a perfect backdrop for the festival, and visitors can enjoy a **picnic** with a host of culinary treasures on the grass at the Stadtpark. The festival will also include a special program for junior gourmets, and to mark Mothers' Day, which falls on that weekend, Vienna's patisseries will be presenting the world's largest **Mothers' Day Heart**. The main aim of the festival's organizers, Kuratorium Kulinarisches Erbe Österreich (the Austrian Culinary Heritage Curatorship) and the City of Vienna, is to support the re-emergence of regional products and small-scale producers in Austria. Last year's festival attracted nearly 20,000 visitors who were treated to specialties such as Viennese bone-in ham, handmade marmalades, Styrian smoked char, and Vorarlberg cheese.

The Stadtpark is Vienna's oldest public park. It was created, along with the Ringstrasse boulevard, around 1860 when the city walls were demolished. The park is home to the city's most photographed monument, the golden statue of Johann Strauss, the king of the Viennese waltz.

**Wiener Genussfestival, May 8 to 10, 2009**

**Vienna Stadtpark, [www.kulinarisches-erbe.at](http://www.kulinarisches-erbe.at)<http://www.kulinarisches-erbe.at/>**

## Springtime contemporary art fairs

**Art lovers will converge on Vienna this May for art austria and Viennafair.**

Viennafair, aka The International Contemporary Art Fair, will be held for the fifth time in 2009. The contemporary art fair at the Messe Wien presents a mix of established and up-and-coming Austrian and international galleries **with a special focus on Central and Eastern**

**Europe**. Exhibitors include Erwin Wurm, Arnulf Rainer, Hermann Nitsch, Bruno Gironcoli, Jonathan Meese and Herbert Brandl. The **Zone 1** exhibition space is where gallery owners show newcomers. At last year's Viennafair around 15,000 visitors saw the work of about 1,000 artists, presented by 126 galleries.

Works of art from the **20th century** are the focus of the art austria 1900-2000 exhibition in quartier21 at the MuseumsQuartier. The specialist fair, which is taking place for the second time in 2009, concentrates on an eventful century for Austrian art. The clearly defined exhibition format is a draw for collectors and prospective buyers alike.

**Viennafair, May 7-10, 2009**

Messe Wien, [www.viennafair.at](http://www.viennafair.at)

**art austria 1900-2000, May 13-17, 2009**

MuseumsQuartier, [www.artaustria.info](http://www.artaustria.info)<http://www.artaustria.info/>



## Vienna Ring Tram



**Explore Vienna's magnificent ring boulevard with all its glorious sights such as the State Opera House, Imperial Palace, Parliament, Vienna City Hall and much more while enjoying the audio-visual information offered by the multimedia system! You will find the exact departure times (every 30 minutes!) posted at all the stops labelled with the Ring Tram symbol.**

You can get to know Vienna's wonderful boulevard, the Ringstrasse, comfortably from the Vienna Ring Tram – **all year round**, daily from **10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

Inside the wagons (40 seats), **LCD screens** inform you about the highlights along the route, supplemented by information in several languages on the headphones.

**Round-the-Ring Tickets:**

1 complete ride around the Ring with no stops, duration 30 minutes;

24-hour Ring Tram ticket: You can get on and off at any station, valid for 24 hours

Daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., July & August 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., [www.wienerlinien.at](http://www.wienerlinien.at)

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