



David McGuffin's
EXPLORING EUROPE

SALZBURG

DESTINATION GUIDE



INDEX

[Overview and Orientation](#) - pg 2

[Getting Around Salzburg](#) - pg 4

[The Augustiner Beer Garden/Haus](#) - pg 4

[Mirabell Gardens and Palace](#) - pg 5

[The Hapsburgs](#) - pg 6

[The Sound of Music - Film](#) - pg 7

[The Sound of Music Story](#) - pg 9

Overview and Orientation

Salzburg is considered the oldest and most important cultural and spiritual center in present-day Austria. Salzburg was elevated to the rank of archdiocese in 798.

From the late Middle Ages onwards it was a spiritual princi-pality in the Holy Roman Empire. Even so, Salzburg is one of Austria's youngest Länder, or political regions. The development of the region and its ultimate separation from Bavaria, its mother country, was agreed in the fourteenth century but it was not until 1816 that Salzburg was incorporated into Austria.

Of Austria's present-day Länder or provinces, Salzburg is the only one to have been ruled



as an independent state by a prince-archbishop and it is the only one of the many spiritual principalities of the Holy Roman Empire still to exist as an independent province.

In the year 600, the province of Salzburg was ruled by Bavarian dukes. In the year 700, they appointed Bishop Rupert von Worms as a missionary to the region. He chose the monastery of St. Peter in Juvavum (Salzburg) as the base for his missionary projects.

Thanks to the extensive donations made by the Bavarian dukes, Salzburg became one of the richest churches in Franconia.

In 739, Salzburg was raised to a bishopric, then, in 798, to an archdiocese. This era also saw the construction of Salzburg Cathedral, consecrated in 774 by Bishop Virgil, who came from Ireland.

Salzburg was secularized in 1803 and handed over to Ferdinand III of Tuscany. 1815, it was often traded off between Tuscany, Austria, and Bavaria.

Since the end of WWII, Salzburg has developed into a major tourist attraction. Mozart memorials are everywhere and his music is ever-present in local concerts and festivals. It seems that everyone is capitalizing on “classical” music, Mozart, and the Sound of Music.

Getting Around Salzburg

The best way to get around Salzburg is by foot. However, there is a network of city buses, the StadtBus, with numbers from 1 to 8 (Electric O-Buses) and 20-27 (fuel-powered). A single trip is €2.10 and a 24 h ticket €5. Tickets can be purchased on the bus or at a “Trafik” (Tobacco) shop. A quicker and cheaper option for 2 or more people traveling together is to take a taxi. It is a 20-minute walk from our hotel to Salzburg’s city center.

The Augustiner Beer Garden/Haus

The Augustiner Brewery at Mülln in Salzburg was founded by Augustinian monks in 1621. These monks had been called to Salzburg from Bavaria by the Wolf Dietrich, the Archbishop of Salzburg.

A monastery was built for the Augustinians in Mülln on the northern slopes of the Mönchs-berg hill between 1607 and 1614.

When the Augustinians died out in Salzburg in the 19th century, Emperor Ferdinand the Kind handed over the monastery to the Benedictines from Michaelbeuern. Even today, considerable value is attached to maintaining the good old craft brewing tradition, such as the trademark of serving beer from a wooden barrel in stone mugs.

Brewing according to the good old Augustin-

er Bräu style has a long tradition. Since ancient times, manual brewing according to the Purity Law of 1516 has been done with malt, water, hops and yeast – without any preservatives.

The hallmark of the art of brewing today is still storing the beer in typical wooden barrels.

They are available in various sizes (15, 20 or 50 liters) for feasts of all kinds. There are several types of beer brewed here, but most likely you'll find: Märzen beer (Malt), 'Lenten beer' (from Ash Wednesday to Easter) and 'Christmas Bock beer' (from November to De-cem-ber) – typical kinds of stout.

Mirabell Gardens and Palace

This Baroque masterpiece was initially built as "Schloss Altenau" under the reign of Prince Arch-bishop Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau in 1606. It was a present for his concubine Salome Alt, and most famous for its splendid gardens.

His successor, Prince Archbishop Markus Sitti-kus, re-named the palace to "Schloss Mirabell" ('beautiful view'). Prince Archbishop Franz Anton Harrach re-built the castle more or less from scratch following plans by Johann Lukas von Hildebrandt between 1721 and 1727.

During the great fire of Salzburg in 1818, the Mira-bell Palace was seriously damaged and re-built ac-cording to plans by Peter Nobile in the following years. The mighty tower in the

heart of the eastern wing was destroyed and the facades were re-decorated in Neo-classic style.

The “Mirabellschwemme,” a well for horses that was attached to the castle, was destroyed in 1823. The Pegasus, unicorns and lions that are now in the Mirabell gardens were originally part of this Mirabellschwemme.

The Mirabell Palace has been the property of the City of Salzburg since 1866. Since 1947 it has served as the city’s administrative building and houses the offices of many city officials, including the mayor of Salzburg.

The Hapsburgs

The family can be traced back to AD 1111 when Count Otto took the name Hapsburg from a castle near Aargau, Switzerland.

Over the next 400 years, the family gained and lost land holdings according to their political and military strength. Arranged marriages between the Hapsburgs and Spanish nobility produced Charles V of Spain, perhaps the strongest and most powerful of the dynasty.

The 18th century saw the rise to power of Maria Teresa and her son Joseph II, which began the lineage of Hapsburg-Lorraine. Joseph II instituted reforms that included the abolition of serfdom, revision of the penal code, religious tolerance, and reduction of the power of the church. The dynasty was continued by Joseph

II, Leopold II, and Francis II through the 19th century.

In the 19th century, the Hapsburg position was challenged in Germany, Italy, and in the Balkans. During the revolutions of 1848 , Francis's son Ferdinand abdicated in favor of his nephew Francis Joseph who ruled from 1848-1916.

The assassination of heir apparent Francis Ferdinand precipitated World War I; the death (in 1916) of Francis Joseph left his grandnephew, Emperor Charles I, to witness the defeat of Austria-Hungary, which was dissolved immediately after Charles's abdication in 1918.

The Sound of Music - Film

The Sound of Music premiered on Broadway in the fall of 1959. The music was written by Richard Rogers, the lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II . The story was inspired by the real von Trapp family from Salzburg.

The film became a great success in the United States as well as in other countries around the world. The day it premiered, March 2, 1965, it grossed over \$158 million at the box office and displaced Gone with the Wind as an all-time champ for box office sales.

Movie Making Trivia

During the scene with Maria and the Captain at the gazebo, Julie Andrews couldn't stop laughing due to a lighting device that was making, in her words, a "raspberry" every time she leaned in to kiss Plummer. After more than 20 takes, the scene was altered to silhouette the two and to hide Andrews' giggles.

Many of the scenes from The Sound Of Music were actually filmed in and around Salzburg.

The Benedictine Garden at Nonnberg is the setting in which the nuns sing "Maria."

Mirabell Gardens and Palace provided the setting where Maria and the children sing "Do Re Mi."

Leopoldskron Castle is the rear garden of the von Trapp home.

The wedding scene was filmed in the Church of Mondsee.

In the film, the gazebo changes size (it becomes larger) when we go inside it. This is intentional. There was a real gazebo on the property where they filmed the scenes at the back of the house, but it was too small for the dance numbers, so they built an interior for the gazebo in Hollywood that was significantly larger.

In Austria, the film is known as "Meine Lieder

- Meine Träume” (“My Songs - My Dreams”). It’s not very well known and most Austrians are clueless about Americans’ fascination with the film.

The Sound of Music Story -

Maria, a soon to be nun, is having trouble with the monastic lifestyle. The Mother Abbess notices her struggling and sends her to be a governess for the von Trapp family.

The von Trapp family consists of 7 children. They have had trouble keeping governesses in the past and the children attempt to run Maria off as well.

The children have lived a very strict military lifestyle since the death of their mother. Maria sets out to change that and to teach them to sing. The children eventually come to like Maria. The children’s father, known as The Captain, begins to fall for Maria as well. Unfortunately, he is engaged.

The Captain’s fiancé talks Maria into re-turning to the Abbey to become a Nun.

While at the convent, Maria has a talk with Mother Abbess who convinces her to go back to be with The Captain. The Captain calls off the wedding between himself and the Baroness, and Maria and The Captain eventually wed.

Later, The Third Reich takes power in Austria and The Captain is forced into military duty. He tries to delay the matter by telling the Nazis he is a part of the von Trapp Family Singers and that he must perform with them in the Salzburg Music Festival.

The Nazis agree to let him perform one last time be-fore being inducted as a Captain into the Third Reich. At the conclusion of the concert, the von Trapp Family flees over the mountains into Switzerland and they live happily ever after.



© David McGuffin's Exploring Europe 2024
The content here is intended for individual use. It may not be used or duplicated without permission from David McGuffin's Exploring Europe, Inc.