



Day Trips from Vienna

Salzburg p184

Mozart's birthplace, Maria von Trapp's spiritual home and the former hangout of lordly prince-archbishops – Salzburg will make you yodel out loud with its baroque beauty and high-on-a-hill fortress.

Krems an der Donau p190

Gateway to the Wachau, quaint Krems plies its visitors with wine and apricot schnapps then sends them out to explore its eye-catching historical core by the Danube.

Melk & Around p192

Easily reachable from the capital, must-see Stift Melk and nearby Schallaburg castle make up an architectural duo you won't want to miss.

Znojmo p194

With its wine-producing traditions, pretty historical centre and dramatic location, this easygoing Czech town is the gateway to the Podyjí National Park.

Bratislava (Slovakia) p195

Straddling the Danube, the Slovak capital offers an intriguing insight into the Austro-Hungarian and more recent socialist past.

Salzburg

Explore

Visiting Salzburg from Vienna is doable in two days, but consider tagging on a third day to explore at a more leisurely pace. High on your itinerary for day one should be the Unesco-listed baroque *Altstadt* (old town), which is burrowed below steep hills, with the main trophy sights clustering on the left bank of the Salzach River. You can walk everywhere in this compact, largely pedestrianised city.

On your second day, whiz up to medieval clifftop fortress Festung Hohensalzburg for sublime city and mountain views, or take a spin around the galleries and Mozart museums. With an extra day, you could head for kitsch-country on a *Sound of Music* bicycle or Segway tour.

Base yourself centrally to see Salzburg beautifully illuminated by night. Classical music performances and beer gardens are the big draws after dark.

The Best...

- ➔ **Sight** Old Town
- ➔ **Place to Eat** Bärenwirt (p188)
- ➔ **Place to Drink** Augustiner Bräustübl (p188)

Top Tip

The **Salzburg Card** (1-/2-/3-day card €26/35/41) includes entry to the major sights and attractions, a river cruise, unlimited use of public transport plus discounts on tours and events.

Getting There & Away

Car & Motorcycle The A1 motorway links Vienna to Salzburg; it's approximately a three-hour drive. The largest car park in the centre is the Altstadt Garage under Mönchsberg (€18 per day).

Train There are at least two trains hourly from Vienna's Westbahnhof to Salzburg (€100, 2½ to three hours). Discounted ÖBB SparSchiene (www.oebb.at/en/tickets/SparSchiene) tickets can be booked online in advance and can cost as little as a third of the standard train fare.

Need to Know

- ➔ **Area Code** 0662
- ➔ **Location** 296km west of Vienna
- ➔ **Tourist Office** (☎889 87-330; www.salzburg.info; Mozartplatz 5; ☎9am-7pm)

SIGHTS

OLD TOWN

HISTORIC QUARTER

A Unesco World Heritage site, Salzburg's Old Town centre is equally entrancing whether viewed from ground level or the hills above.

The grand **Residenzplatz**, with its horse-drawn carriages and mythical fountain, is a good starting point for a wander. The overwhelmingly baroque **Dom** (Cathedral; Domplatz; ☎8am-7pm Mon-Sat, 1-7pm Sun), slightly south, is entered via bronze doors symbolising faith, hope and charity. The adjacent **Dommuseum** (adult/child €5/1.50; ☎10am-5pm Mon-Sat, 11am-6pm Sun May-Oct) is a treasure-trove of ecclesiastical art.

From here, head west along Franziskanergasse and turn left into a courtyard for **Stiftskirche St Peter** (St Peter's Abbey Church; St Peter Bezirk 1-2; catacombs adult/child €1.50/1; ☎church 8.30am-noon & 2.30-6.30pm, cemetery 6.30am-7pm, catacombs 10.30am-5pm Tue-Sun), an abbey church founded around 700. Among the lovingly tended graves in the grounds you'll find the **Katakomben** (catacombs; admission €1.50; ☎10.30am-5pm Tue-Sun), cavelike chapels and crypts hewn out of the Mönchsberg cliff face.

The western end of Franziskanergasse opens out into Max Reinhardt Platz, where you'll see the back of Fisher von Erlach's **Kollegienkirche** (Universitätsplatz; ☎8am-6pm), another outstanding example of baroque architecture. The **Stift Nonnberg** (Nonnberg Convent; Nonnberggasse 2; ☎7am-dusk), where Maria first appears in *The Sound of Music*, is back in the other direction, a short climb up the hill to the east of the Festung Hohensalzburg.

★ FESTUNG HOHENSALZBURG FORT

(www.salzburg-burgen.at; Mönchsberg 34; adult/child/family €7.80/4.40/17.70, with Festungsbahn funicular €11/6.30/25.50; ☎9am-7pm) Salzburg's most visible icon is this mighty clifftop fortress, one of the best preserved in Europe. Built in 1077, it was home to many prince-archbishops who ruled Salzburg from 798.