

# Karlsplatz & Around Naschmarkt

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- ➊ Being blown away by the baroque splendour of the **Karlskirche** (p95) as you rise up to its oval-shaped cupola for a close-up look at Michael Rottmayr's frescoes.
- ➋ Snacking your way from stall to delectable stall at the **Naschmarkt** (p110).
- ➌ Piecing together the tragedies and the triumphs of Vienna's history at the stellar **Wien Museum** (p100).
- ➍ Reliving operatic highs with a guided tour of the **Staatsoper** (p108).



For more detail of this area see Map p256 ➔

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

It is a pleasure simply to wander the backstreets of the Freihausviertel, just south of Naschmarkt. One of the neighbourhood's most elegant streets is Mühlgasse, lined with late-19th-century houses with Juliet balconies and ornate doors in the *Jugendstil* (art nouveau) style. Nos 26 and 28 are fine examples.



### Best Places to Eat

- Steman (p102)
- Ubl (p102)
- Motto (p102)
- Collio (p104)
- Umar (p102)

For reviews, see p102 ➡



### Best Places to Drink

- Café Sperl (p104)
- Phil (p105)
- Café Drechsler (p105)
- Tanzcafé Jenseits (p105)
- Sekt Comptoir (p105)

For reviews, see p104 ➡



### Best Shopping

- Blühendes Konfekt (p109)
- Dörthe Kaufmann (p109)
- Mein Design (p109)
- feinedinge (p109)
- Gabarage Upcycling Design (p110)

For reviews, see p109 ➡

## Explore Karlsplatz & Around Naschmarkt

Spreading south of the Opernring is Vienna's cultured 4th district, Wieden. Here days can be spent gazing upon the baroque frescoes that dance across the Karlskirche, Otto Wagner's art nouveau buildings and Klimt's sensual friezes. Nights lift the curtain on high-calibre opera and classical music in some of the world's finest concert halls. Wander west and within minutes you swing from gilded opulence to the multilingual babble, street-food sizzle and market stall banter of the Naschmarkt. Amble south of here to the easygoing Freihausviertel and Vienna suddenly shrinks to village scale, with arty cafes, ateliers and food shops run by folk with genuine passion.

North of Wieden is 6th-district Mariahilf. Give the high-street throngs on Mariahilfer Strasse the slip and you soon find yourself in quintessentially Viennese backstreets, home to speciality shops and old-school coffee houses. On the cutting edge of the city's nightlife and design scene is Gumpendorfer Strasse.

Wedge between Wieden and Mariahilf in the 5th district is Margareten, with few heavyweight sights but strong local flavour, particularly around the increasingly fashionable Margaretenplatz. Head here to slip off the well-trodden map.

## Local Life

➤ **Shopping** Follow the hungry Viennese to the Naschmarkt (p110) for a world of street food, and scout out delis, design stores and one-of-a-kind boutiques in the artsy Freihausviertel (p98) and around Margaretenplatz.

➤ **Nightlife Haunts** Hang out with a young and up-for-it crowd on Gumpendorfer Strasse, crammed with bars, cafes and lounge-style restaurants, or find a more laid-back scene around Schleifmühlgasse.

➤ **Cafes** There are some great ones: from boho Café Jelinek (p106) to starkly contemporary Café Drechsler (p105), open 23 hours a day.

## Getting There & Away

➤ **U-Bahn** Karlsplatz is well connected to all corners of Vienna, served by lines U1, U2 and U4. The U4 line to Kettenbrückengasse is handy for Naschmarkt and the Freihausviertel, while the U3 line (Zieglergasse, Neubaugasse etc) is useful for reaching Mariahilf. Pilgramgasse (U4) is the most central stop for Margareten, and Taubstummengasse (U1) for Wieden.

➤ **Tram** Key tram routes include 1 and 62, which stop at Karlsplatz and pass through Wieden.