

The Museum District & Neubau

Neighbourhood Top Five

① Throwing yourself head first into the artistic vortex of the **Kunsthistorisches Museum** (p113), a whirl of Habsburg treasures from Egyptian tombs to rare breed Raphael, Dürer and Caravaggio masterworks.

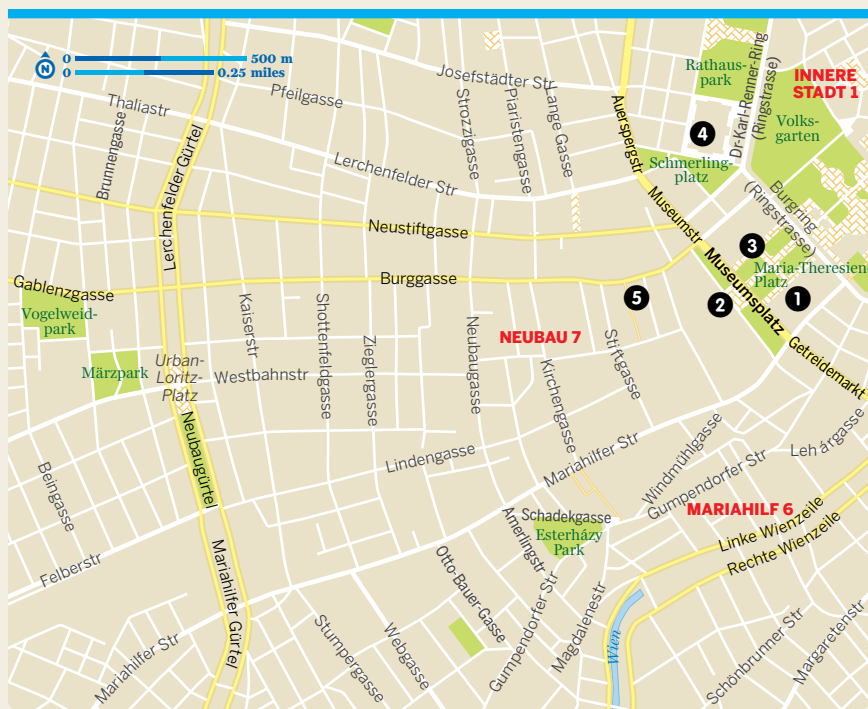
② Checking Vienna's cultural pulse with an

art-packed day at the vast **MuseumsQuartier** (p119).

③ Making a date with the dinosaurs and prehistoric divas at the **Naturhistorisches Museum** (p122).

④ Revelling in the neo-Gothic riches of the **Rathaus** (p123) on a free guided tour.

⑤ Going on a crafty walk through the cobbled backstreets of the Biedermeier **Spittelberg** neighbourhood.



For more detail of this area see Map p260 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

If you want more of an insight into the neighbourhood's sights, time your visit to catch one of the free guided tours. Gallery tours that won't cost you a cent include those at the Leopold Museum at 3pm on Sunday and the MUMOK at 2pm on Saturday and Sunday and 7pm on Thursday. Best of all are the gratis guided tours of the neo-Gothic Rathaus at 1pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Best Places to Eat

- Kulinarium 7 (p126)
- Amerlingbeisl (p126)
- Pizzeria-Osteria Da Giovanni (p126)
- M Lounge (p126)
- Gaumenspiel (p128)

For reviews, see p126 ➡

Best Places to Drink

- Dachboden (p128)
- Loft (p128)
- Café Leopold (p128)
- Rote Bar (p128)
- Europa (p128)

For reviews, see p128 ➡

Best Entertainment

- Burgtheater (p130)
- Volkstheater (p130)
- Vienna's English Theatre (p130)
- Tanzquartier Wien (p130)

For reviews, see p130 ➡

Explore the Museum District & Neubau

The Museum District and Neubau walk a fine line between Habsburg history and modernity. The baroque imperial stables have been sent cantering into the 21st century with their transformation into the Museums-Quartier, a colossal complex of on-the-pulse bars, cafes, boutiques and museums, including the Leopold, the proud holder of the world's largest Schiele collection. Hang out in the courtyards here in summer and you can almost taste the creativity in the air.

Just around the corner on Maria-Theresien-Platz is the Kunsthistorisches Museum, an epic and exhilarating journey through art, where Rubens originals star alongside Giza treasures. Its architectural twin is the neoclassical Naturhistorisches Museum opposite.

When you've had your fill of art and culture, keep tabs on Vienna's ever-evolving fashion and design scene with a mosey around Neubau's backstreet studios and boutiques. After dark, the live-wire clubs and bars tucked under the Gürtel arches, slightly west, are where the young Viennese go to party.

Local Life

➤ **Schanigärten** Join the locals to toast summer at a flurry of pavement cafes and courtyard gardens, including Lux (p127) and Amerlingbeisl (p126) in Spittelberg, and Kantine (p126) and Café Leopold (p128) in the MuseumsQuartier.

➤ **Neubau Design** Mill around Kirchengasse, Lindengasse, Neubaugasse and Zollergasse, where artists and creatives put a fresh take on Viennese fashion and design.

➤ **Nightlife Haunts** Take the lead of locals and go west to the Gürtel to party at happening bars, like Chelsea (p129), Loft (p128) and Rhiz (p129).

Getting There & Away

➤ **U-Bahn** Useful U-Bahn stops include Museumsquartier and Volkstheater on the U2 line. The U3 Neubaugasse and Zieglergasse stops, and the U6 stops Burggasse Stadthalle and Thaliastrasse are best for accessing Neubau.

➤ **Tram** Trams 1, 2 and D race you around the Ringstrasse, stopping at Rathaus, Dr-Karl-Renner-Ring and Parlament en route. The 49 line trundles from Dr-Karl-Renner-Ring through Neubau, with handy stops including Stiftgasse, Siebensterngasse and Neubaugasse/Westbahnstrasse.