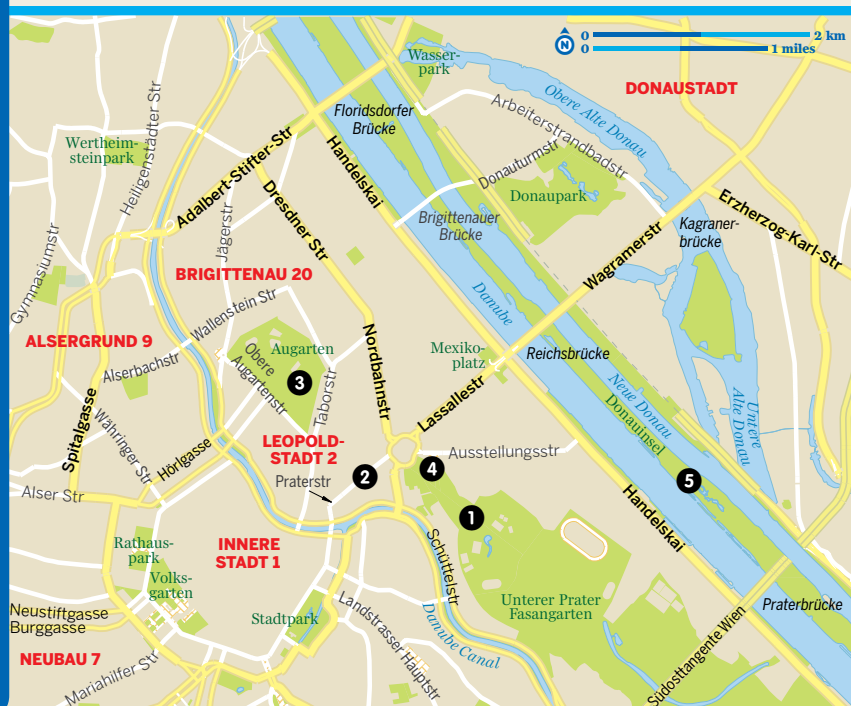


# Prater & East of the Danube

LEOPOLDSTADT | DONAUSTADT

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- ➊ Enjoying a slice of Viennese park life in the **Prater** (p164), with boulevards for strolling, woods for roaming and a funfair. Take a nostalgic twirl above the capital in the **Riesenrad** (p164), at its twinkling best after dark.
- ➋ Waltzing over to the **Johann Strauss Residence** (p166), where ball chart-topper 'The Blue Danube' was composed.
- ➌ Seeing banquet-worthy porcelain in the making behind the scenes at the **Porzellanmuseum im Augarten** (p166).
- ➍ Meeting Freud, Klimt, Falco and a host of other Austrian waxwork wonders at **Madame Tussauds Vienna** (p166).
- ➎ Relaxing Viennese-style at a riverside beach or bar on the **Donaufels** (p170) in summer.



For more detail of this area see Map p266 ➔

## Explore Prater & East of the Danube

Between the bends of the Danube Canal and the Danube, Leopoldstadt in Vienna's 2nd district is just a couple of U-Bahn stops from the Innere Stadt, but feels light years away in spirit at times. Here, you can easily tiptoe off the beaten track; not least in the 4.5km ribbon of greenery that is the Prater. The Riesenrad rises above it all, rotating slowly to maximise on the skyline views. To the west unfurl the manicured baroque gardens of the Augarten, home to a world-famous porcelain maker.

Leopoldstadt itself is worth more than a cursory glance, with boutiques, delis and cafes continuing to pop up on and around Karmelitermarkt, bringing a dash of gentrification to a once decidedly working class area. The market, at its vibrant best on a Saturday morning, was once the centre of a flourishing Jewish quarter, which was all but extinguished during WWII. Yet a glimmer of that legacy is still visible in the district's sprinkling of kosher shops and men wearing wide-brimmed fedoras.

Strung along the banks of the Danube further north is Donaustadt, the 22nd district, whose personality swings between the forests of glass-and-steel skyscrapers in the UNO-City and the serene, deer-dotted woodlands of the Nationalpark Donau-Auen. The long slither of an island called Donauinsel is a much-loved summertime hangout of the Wiener for its bars, water-based action and urban beaches.

## Local Life

- ➔ **Walks** Ah, what could be more Viennese than a languid bike ride through the chestnut-filled Prater (p164) or a saunter through the Augarten (p166).
- ➔ **Views** Riesenrad not your scene? Join locals to play 'I Spy' with the city's iconic landmarks at Le Loft (p169).
- ➔ **Markets** Scoot through the Karmelitermarkt (p169) Wiener-style on a Saturday morning for farm-fresh, organic grub, followed by brunch at a curbside deli.

## Getting There & Away

- ➔ **U-Bahn** Praterstern (U1 and U2) is the main public transport link through Leopoldstadt to the Prater, with the U1 continuing on to the Donauinsel. Other handy stops include Nestroyplatz (U1) and Taborstrasse (U2) for the Karmelitermarkt.
- ➔ **Tram** Tram No 1 is a useful link between the southern portions of the Prater and the Ringstrasse.

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

For a truly Viennese experience, visit the 2nd district on a Saturday. Begin with a morning's mooch around the farmers market at Karmelitermarkt, stopping for brunch at one of the deli-cafes, then head south-east for a lazy stroll around the Prater or northwest to the baroque gardens of the Augarten.

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Skopik & Lohn (p168)
- ➔ Tempel (p168)
- ➔ Restaurant Vincent (p168)
- ➔ Pizza Mari' (p167)
- ➔ Restaurant Mraz & Sohn (p169)

For reviews, see p167 ➔

## Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Le Loft (p169)
- ➔ Sperlhof (p169)
- ➔ Pratersauna (p170)
- ➔ Fluc (p170)
- ➔ Tachles (p169)

For reviews, see p169 ➔

## Best Places for Children

- ➔ Riesenrad (p164)
- ➔ Planetarium (p165)
- ➔ Alte Donau (p171)
- ➔ Donauinsel (p170)
- ➔ Minopolis (p172)

For reviews, see p164 ➔