



# Day Trips from Vienna

## Salzburg p176

Crowned by its hilltop fortress, Mozart's birthplace and the backdrop for the evergreen musical *The Sound of Music* has a fairy-tale charm.

## Krems an der Danau p185

Gateway to the Wachau, quaint Krems centres on its historic core by the Danube and makes an ideal starting point for a loop through the beautiful Danube Valley.

## Melk & Around p188

Easily reached from the Austrian capital, Stift Melk and nearby Shallaburg castle are an unmissable architectural duo.

# 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, whizz up to the 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 take a tour of locations featured in *The Sound of Music*.

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

## The Best...

- ➔ **Sight** *Altstadt* (old town)
- ➔ **Place to Eat** Magazin (p182)
- ➔ **Place to Drink** Augustiner Bräustübl (p182)

## Top Tip

The **Salzburg Card** (1-/2-/3-day card €27/36/42). The card gets you entry to all of the major sights and attractions and unlimited use of public transport (including cable cars).

## Getting There & Away

**Car & Motorcycle** The A1 motorway links Vienna to Salzburg; it's approximately a three-hour drive.

**Train** Frequent trains link Vienna with Salzburg (€51.90, 2½ to three hours). Österreichische Bundesbahn (ÖBB; www.oebb.at) is the main operator. Trains depart from the Wien Hauptbahnhof, with some services also stopping at Wien Meidling. Vienna's Westbahnhof is the terminus for the Westbahn (https://westbahn.at) intercity service to/from Salzburg.

## Need to Know

- ➔ **Area Code** 0662
- ➔ **Location** 296km west of Vienna
- ➔ **Main Tourist Office** (0662-88 98 70; www.salzburg.info; Mozartplatz 5; ☎9am-7pm Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm Sun)

## SIGHTS

### RESIDENZPLATZ

SQUARE

With its horse-drawn carriages, palace and street entertainers, this baroque square is the Salzburg of a thousand postcards. Its centrepiece is the **Residenzbrunnen**, an enormous marble fountain. The plaza is the late-16th-century vision of Prince-Archbishop Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau who, inspired by Rome, enlisted Italian architect Vincenzo Scamozzi to design it.

### ★ RESIDENZ

PALACE

(www.domquartier.at; Residenzplatz 1; Dom-Quartier ticket adult/child €12/5; ☎10am-5pm Wed-Mon) The crowning glory of Salzburg's new DomQuartier, the Residenz is where the prince-archbishops held court until Salzburg became part of the Habsburg Empire in the 19th century. An audio-guide tour takes in the exuberant **state rooms**, lavishly adorned with tapestries, stucco and frescoes by Johann Michael Rottmayr. The 3rd floor is given over to the **Residenzgalerie**, where the focus is on Flemish and Dutch masters. Must-sees include Rubens' *Allegory on Emperor Charles V* and Rembrandt's chiaroscuro *Old Woman Praying*.

Nowhere is the pomp and circumstance of Salzburg more tangible than at this regal palace. A man of grand designs, Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau, the prince-archbishop of Salzburg from 1587 to 1612, gave the go-ahead to build this baroque palace on the site of an 11th-century bishop's residence.

### DOM

CATHEDRAL

(Cathedral; www.salzburger-dom.at; Domplatz; ☎8am-7pm Mon-Sat, 1-7pm Sun May-Sep, shorter hours rest of year) **FREE** Gracefully crowned by a bulbous copper dome and twin spires, the Dom stands out as a masterpiece of baroque art. Bronze portals symbolising faith, hope and charity lead into the cathedral. In the nave, both the intricate stucco and Arsenio Mascagni's ceiling frescoes recounting the Passion of Christ guide the eye to the polychrome dome.