

VIENNA

ENCOUNTER

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Vienna Encounter

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Colour-Coding & Maps

Colour-coding is used for symbols on maps and in the text that they relate to (eg all eating venues on the maps and in the text are given a green knife and fork symbol). Each neighbourhood also gets its own colour, and this is used down the edge of the page and throughout that neighbourhood section.

Shaded yellow areas on the maps denote areas of interest – for their historical significance, their attractive architecture or their great bars and restaurants. We encourage you to head to these areas and just start exploring!

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CAROLINE SIEG

Caroline's relationship with Vienna began after high school, when her best friend relocated there. Subsequent trips to the city yielded countless hikes in the Wienerwald, *Heurigen*-filled afternoons and a profound obsession with *Würstchen mit Kren* (sausages with freshly grated horseradish) and *Mohr im Hemd* (steamed chocolate-hazelnut pudding). These days, this half-Swiss, half-American travel writer hangs her hat in Berlin.

This guide is dedicated to Julie Ruzycski, aka Jules.



CAROLINE'S THANKS

Thanks to my parents for instilling in me a lifelong zest for travel. Thanks mucho to Paula Hardy for giving me this gig, Joe Bindloss who took over the reigns midway, Angela Tinson for her careful editing and Anthony Haywood for being an ace co-author on *Vienna 6*. *Vielen Dank* to Rafed and co for a few truly excellent nights on the town and showing me how real Viennese party it up, and to Neal Bedford for the valuable insights and recommendations. And to Jules – the biggest Vienna fan I know and one of the best friends I could ever wish for.

ANTHONY HAYWOOD

While travelling to Moscow in the very early 1990s, Anthony detoured to Vienna. It was the start of a fascination with the capital, which he loves for its unusual contrasts of high and low culture, and of course for the Viennese themselves and their humour, the famous *Wiener Schmah*. Anthony works as a freelance journalist and writer. His publications include numerous Lonely Planet guidebooks, travel articles, short stories and translations.

Anthony contributed to the See and Eat sections of the Neighbourhoods chapter and to the Highlights, Diary, Danube Valley, Snapshots and Background chapters of this book.



To market, to market – you'll find everything you need at the Naschmarkt (p13)

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> THIS IS VIENNA

Vienna embraces past and present, with poise and confidence. From gilded Habsburg palaces and chandelier-lit coffee houses to innovative art and sophisticated nightlife – Vienna takes it all in a casual stride along the serene Danube.

We often romanticise Vienna in terms of its grand past. Our minds conjure up the angelic choir boys, monumental palaces and flamboyance. We hear the tones of Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms, and see filigree paintings or the sketches of Klimt, Schiele and Kokoschka. But we shouldn't ignore Vienna's dynamic present, for it entices and surprises at every turn. From vibrant, modern art spaces to boisterous markets, stylish glass-walled restaurants and pulsating cocktail bars wedged under overground subway tracks.

Large (with almost 1.7 million inhabitants) and ostentatious, Vienna combines some of the best features of a Habsburg-ruled province with some of the most desirable aspects of modernity. It's still a close-knit community that loves escalating even the most trivial into the absurdly grandiose, and its romantic architectural stalwarts still dominate. But it also has colourful contemporary culture, a burgeoning culinary scene and lively pubs, bars, coffee shops and beer houses. An idiosyncratic rock and club scene rules its nightlife and innovative performance art takes place every day.

And if you need a break from the bustle of the city, picturesque vineyards and convivial *Heurigen* (wine taverns) pepper its suburbs. And right on its doorstep lies the Danube Valley, a historical snapshot of small villages boasting some of the country's best winemaking, crumbling castles and outstanding restaurants.

Few places in the world match Vienna's quality of life; it frequently tops lists of the world's most liveable cities. Throw in some excellent programs for sustainable development and we really are talking about a city with a future. And so Vienna reveals itself as not just the city we think we know, but also one with a grand collection of new riches well worth discovering.

Top left Go for baroque at Karlskirche (p86) **Top right** Read all about it over coffee and a slice at Café Sperl (p66)
Bottom Paint the town red at Tanzcafé Jenseits (p69)