



# Salzburg & Around

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## Why Go?

One of Austria's smallest provinces, Salzburgerland is proof that size really doesn't matter. Well, not when you have Mozart, Maria von Trapp and the 600-year legacy of the prince-archbishops behind you. This is the land that grabbed the world spotlight and shouted 'visit Austria!' with Julie Andrews skipping joyously down the mountainsides. This is indeed the land of crisp apple strudel, dancing marionettes and high-on-a-hilltop castles. This is the Austria of your wildest childhood dreams.

Salzburg is every bit as grand as you imagine it: a baroque masterpiece, a classical music legend and Austria's spiritual heartland. But it is just the prelude to the region's sensational natural beauty. Just outside of the city, the landscape is etched with deep ravines, glinting ice caves, karst plateaux and mountains of myth – in short, the kind of alpine gorgeousness that no well-orchestrated symphony or yodelling nun could ever quite capture.

## When to Go

Orchestras strike up at Mozart's birthday bash in January, Mozartwoche, and at the Easter Osterfestspiele. July to August is the best time to partake in the colossal feast of opera, classical music and drama that is the Salzburg Festival. Jazz festivals get into full swing from October, and late November sees Christmas markets fill Salzburg with festive sparkle.



## Salzburg & Around Highlights

- 1 Surveying Salzburg's baroque cityscape from 900-year-old **Festung Hohensalzburg** (p171)
- 2 Going subzero in the frozen depths of **Eisriesenwelt** (p194) in Werfen
- 3 Tuning into the life of a classical genius at Salzburg's **Mozart-Wohnhaus** (p176)
- 4 Getting drenched like a drunken prince-archbishop by fountains at **Schloss Hellbrunn** (p192)
- 5 Doing a Julie singing 'Do-Re-Mi' in the fountain-dotted gardens of Salzburg's **Schloss Mirabell** (p177)
- 6 Marvelling at puppetry magic at the smaller-
- than-life **Salzburger Marionettentheater** (p189)
- 7 Donning a boiler suit for a slippery-when-waxed ride at the **Salzwellten** (p193) salt mine in Hallein
- 8 Thanking heaven for small breweries and brimful steins at Salzburg's **Augustiner Bräustübl** (p187)