



In the Footsteps of Vienna's Famous Musicians

A Vienna City Walk by Tita Büttner

Experience Vienna, the world's capital of music, by tracing the footsteps of some of the famous composers who have lived and worked here: Ludwig van Beethoven, Alban Berg, Johannes Brahms, Anton Bruckner, Gottfried von Einem, Christoph Willibald Gluck, Joseph Haydn, Emmerich Kálmán, Anton Karas, Joseph Lanner, Franz Lehár, Franz Liszt, Gustav Mahler, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Otto Nicolai, Antonio Salieri, Franz Schmidt, Arnold Schoenberg, Franz Schubert, Robert Stolz, Johann Strauss senior and junior, Richard Strauss, Antonio Vivaldi, Hugo Wolf, Carl Michael Ziehrer and many more.

Many of these artists knew each other, were students and teachers of each other, and were friends. These relationships gave rise to numerous anecdotes that further enhance the charm of the original locations.

Walking time: approximately 2 hours Additional travel time: approximately 30 mins

Including breaks and stops at attractions, a whole day can be spent tracing the footsteps of famous musicians – at the same time experiencing Vienna's picturesque historic center.

Ask your hotel or the **Tourist Information Office** on Albertinaplatz (open daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.) for a free **city map** (also available online at: www.vienna.info) and the Vienna Tourist Board's **Calendar of Events** which gives a run-down of what's on. The **Vienna Card** is also a useful companion. Costing EUR 18.50 it gives you 72 hours' unlimited travel on the city's underground, bus and tram network as well as 210 discounts and special deals at museums, tourist attractions, theaters, concert halls, shops, cafés, restaurants and Vienna's wine taverns.

Start in the heart of the city – at Stephansplatz (U1, U3)

St. Stephen's Cathedral (Stephansdom)

The cathedral is the icon of Vienna. The locals call it "Steffl" and its walls bear witness to the lives of many famous musicians. **Joseph Haydn** (b. 1732 Rohrau, Lower Austria – d. 1809 Vienna) for example, moved to Vienna at the age of eight and began his career as a choirboy in this church. For nine years (until his voice broke) he and his brother **Michael Haydn** received a thorough musical education here. On November 26, 1760, at the age of 28, Haydn was married in the cathedral, not, however, to the woman he loved – she had gone to a nunnery at her parent's request – but to her older sister.

Antonio Vivaldi (b. 1678 Venice – d. 1741 Vienna, "The Red Haired") was a priest by profession, but the creator of the famous "Four Seasons" was known throughout Europe as a talented musician. As his fame waned and he fell into poverty Vivaldi came to Vienna to try his luck again – without success. Within a few months he was dead and his passing is recorded in the Cathedral register on July 28, 1741 (at the time Haydn had just begun his musical career as a choirboy).

The names of **Christoph Willibald Gluck** (b. 1714 Erasbach – d. 1787 Vienna), **Antonio Salieri** (b. 1750 Legnago, Venice – d. 1825 Vienna), **Franz Schubert** (b. 1797 Vienna – d. 1828 Vienna) and **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** (b. 1756 Salzburg – d. 1791 Vienna) also appear in the same death

register. Mozart's wedding to Constance and the christening of two of their six children are also recorded in the Cathedral archives.

In May 1791 a heavily indebted **Mozart** applied for the well-paid position of Music Director at the Cathedral. He agreed to carry out the duties on a voluntary basis until the death of his old and sickly predecessor. But before he could officially take up the position he died on December 5, 1791 at the age of 35 just a few steps from here at Rauhensteingasse 8 (today the Steffl department store, enter at Kärntner Strasse 19). Shortly before his death he wrote in a letter: "I have come to the end, before I could enjoy my talent. And life was so beautiful." Today the Steffl department store is located where Mozart's death house once stood (Kärntner Strasse 19).

Almost 60 years after Mozart's death several thousand people accompanied **Johann Strauss senior** (b. 1804 Vienna – d. 1849 Vienna), the "grandfather" of the Viennese Waltz, on his final journey to this cathedral. His **son Johann** (b. 1825 Vienna – d. 1899 Vienna) continued the work of his father and built a reputation as the world famous "**Waltz King**". He was already 37 before he dared tie the knot in this cathedral. The happy bride was Henriette Treffz. She was known as Jetty and was a 44-year-old opera singer and mother of seven children born out of wedlock. Despite all the fearful predictions, the marriage was not only happy, but Jetty proved an extremely successful manager for her famous husband.

Singerstrasse runs off Stephansplatz (see city map). It is just a few yards to the

House and Church of the Teutonic Order (Deutschordenshaus)

(1st district, Singerstrasse 7, www.deutscher-orden.at)

In the forecourt next to the entrance to this atmospheric little church, a memorial records that **Mozart** lived here between March 18 and May 2, 1781. The young genius was here for only a few weeks but it was a decisive period for Mozart as it was during this time that he clashed with his employer, the Archbishop of Salzburg. As a result, the 25-year old Mozart resigned and decided to remain in Vienna as a freelance artist. It was a self-assured and courageous decision in light of the fact that most of the savings of the former child prodigy had been exhausted. It marked the beginning of a turbulent decade with great artistic successes, a happy marriage, children, wealth and respect combined with failures, intrigues, illness, debts and a premature death.

Johannes Brahms also lived on the top floor of the building between 1863 and 1865.

In the courtyard of the Deutschordenshaus, where you can visit the **Treasury of the Teutonic Order**, there are windows with old, wrought-iron lattice. Behind the windows is a small 18th century theater where the Mozart Ensemble Vienna performs concerts. Walk through the second courtyard (the summer location of a relaxed outdoor cafe) to return to Singerstrasse.

*Continue left a few yards to Blutgasse. Time seems to have come to a standstill in the picturesque courtyards of numbers 9 and 3. The view from the window into this courtyard inspired **Wenzel Müller** (1767-1835) to compose the song titled: "Kommt ein Vögel geflogen". At the end of Blutgasse you come to Domgasse.*

Mozarthaus Vienna

(1st district, Domgasse 5, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily, www.mozarthausvienna.at, discount for Vienna Card holders)

Of the dozen apartments occupied by Mozart during his Vienna years only one survives – that at number 5 Domgasse. The composer lived here from September 29, 1784 to April 24, 1787. His first-floor apartment was quite grand with four large rooms, two smaller rooms and a kitchen. The years Wolfgang Amadeus spent here were probably the happiest of his life and it was the dwelling he stayed longest at. Many great works were written here, including "The Marriage of Figaro".

At this time Mozart was a celebrated musician with a circle of illustrious friends and was often commissioned to give numerous concerts in aristocratic homes. Exuberant parties, music making and billiards were all part of the fun. His father Leopold traveled from Salzburg and stayed for more than two months (from February till the end of April 1785); **Joseph Haydn**, who Mozart called his “fatherly friend”, was a visitor and Mozart’s younger student **Johann Nepomuk Hummel** even lived here for two years. The 17-year-old **Ludwig van Beethoven** (b. 1770 Bonn – d. 1827 Vienna) was probably also among the visitors. He traveled from Bonn especially to take lessons with Mozart but had to leave before tuition began after his mother fell critically ill. At the age of 22 he returned to Vienna to learn from Haydn – and stayed until his death.

The Mozarthaus Vienna is spread over six floors where you can immerse yourself in the composer’s world, exploring his tremendous creativity, his family, his friends and his foes.

Walk through the arch at Domgasse 2 to return to Stephansplatz – at the rear of the Cathedral. Immediately opposite the arch under the Capistran Pulpit you will find the **Crucifix Chapel**. **Mozart’s** body was taken by carriage from here to St. Marx Cemetery.

Walk through the passage at Stephansplatz 6 to Wollzeile and proceed through the next passage at Wollzeile 5a. (This takes you past Figlmüller, a restaurant famous for its especially large Vienna Schnitzels). This brings you to Bäckerstrasse. Turn right.

Perhaps you can spare a little time for the following old courtyards: Bäckerstrasse 7 is one of only a few residences with 16th century Renaissance arcades and a collection of old wrought-iron works on the walls. Bäckerstrasse 12 bears the name “allwo die Kuh am Brett spielt” (where the cow plays) and features the remains of the corresponding frescoes. The Baroque residence at no. 16 boasts a modern climbing wall in the courtyard. From here it is not far to

Dr.-Ignaz-Seipel-Platz

Take a look into the Jesuit Church (Universitätskirche) which dates from 1627. The “fake dome” is best seen when you look up from the light-colored stone of the nave. Between September and June Sunday mass here features sacred music by composers such as Haydn, Mozart and Schubert (starts at 10:30 a.m.).

Former Old University (Stadtkonvikt)

(1st district, Dr.-Ignaz-Seipel-Platz, opposite the *Academy*)

This building is not open to the public. It was home to both the *Akademisches Gymnasium* and the Imperial City Seminary (Stadtkonvikt). It was here that an eleven-year old **Franz Schubert** received a thorough education as court chorister from 1808 to 1813. **Antonio Salieri** was the court music director who discovered the boy’s exceptional musical talent and recommended him for a highly sought-after place. After Schubert left the school Salieri even gave him a further three years of free private lessons.

Austrian Academy of Sciences

(1st district, Dr.-Ignaz-Seipel-Platz 2, www.oeaw.ac.at)

The magnificent grand hall of the Academy of Sciences is open to visitors Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. unless events are scheduled (please ask at the door). On March 27, 1808 **Joseph Haydn** celebrated his 76th birthday in the auditorium. Everybody who was anybody was there (even Haydn’s former student **Beethoven**). Wearing all his medals and decorations, the grand old composer was carried in on a sedan chair to great acclaim to attend a sensational performance of his “Creation”. This was to be the master’s last public appearance. He died a year later, during Napoleon’s occupation of Vienna. In May 1809 Napoleon, a great admirer of Haydn, had a guard of honor posted in front of the dying composer’s house. Today it is a **Haydn memorial with a Brahms memorial room**. (6th

district, Haydngasse 19, daily except Mon 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 – 6 p.m., closed on Jan. 1, May 1, Dec. 25)

In December 1813 the Academy's auditorium was the scene of the 43-year old **Beethoven's** triumphant success with his Symphony No. 7 and the premiere of his symphonic work "Wellington's Victory" that marked Napoleon's defeat in Spain. The composer conducted both works but could not hear the roaring applause, as he had already become deaf. A few months later Beethoven enjoyed international success with this program. The statesmen at the Congress of Vienna were so overwhelmed by his music that they spread the word about the great composer in their respective countries.

*Continue along Bäckerstrasse to Stubenring. You can now either continue **on foot** or skip a few stops and catch the **no. 2 tram** along the magnificent Ring Boulevard taking in various "musical detours" for example at the following sites (see city map):*

Schwarzenbergplatz and the **Schönberg Center** (3rd district, Schwarzenbergplatz/Zaunergasse 1, www.schoenberg.at) Here, in Palais Fanto, a research center is dedicated to Arnold Schoenberg (b. 1874 Vienna – d. 1951 Los Angeles), the founder of twelve-tone music. Events and concerts are also held here.

Opera: the Vienna State Opera, the State Opera Museum, the Musikverein and the Theater Museum

Burgring: the Mozart memorial, the Collection of Historical Musical Instruments and Hofburg Chapel (Burgkapelle) *From here, take no. 1 or D tram to continue to*

Rathausplatz/Burgtheater: Strauss and Lanner memorials

Schottentor/University: Pasqualati House (a Beethoven memorial), Schottenstift: Franz Liszt stayed several times – in **Liszt-Year 2011:** concerts "Dialogues mystiques" (www.schottenstift.at)

*If you want to continue the tour from Stubenring to Rathaus (City Hall) **on foot**, walk across the Ring to*

Stadtpark

Here you will find memorials to **Anton Bruckner** (b. 1824 Ansfelden – d. 1896 Vienna), **Franz Lehár** (b. 1870 Komárno – d. 1948 Bad Ischl, Upper Austria), **Robert Stolz**, the operetta genius (b. 1889 Graz – d. 1975 Berlin) and the prince of song **Franz Schubert**, as well as one of the world's most photographed monuments: the **Johann Strauss Golden Statue**. Surrounded by dancing and floating figures, the Waltz King is shown with his violin poised, ready to play. Schani (Strauss's nickname) conquered the world in three-quarter time. The musical genius wrote 500 works, among them the "Blue Danube" and "Emperor" waltzes and the operetta "Die Fledermaus".

*Before you leave Stadtpark have a quick look inside the beautifully renovated **Vienna Kursalon**. It was built in 1867 and hosted the promenade concerts of the Strauss brothers, wowing Viennese audiences. Cross the Ring Boulevard and walk along Johannesgasse to Seilerstätte.*

House of Music

(1st district, Seilerstätte 30, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. daily, www.hdm.at, discount for Vienna Card holders)

Covering four floors, this theme world treats you to fascinating and unique listening experiences, from simple sounds through to the music of the future. Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Strauss, Mahler, Schoenberg and, of course, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, are entertainingly presented. From 1841 to 1847 the composer of "The Merry Wives of Windsor", **Otto Nicolai** (b. 1810 Königsberg, Russia – d. 1849 Berlin) resided in this house. Together with the members of the Court Opera Orchestra he founded the Vienna Philharmonic in 1842. Their museum is located on the first floor of the building. Perhaps you would like to try your hand at conducting possibly the world's greatest orchestra? Using modern technology you can do just that in the House of Music, but please try to keep the tempo and

don't miss any cues, these virtual musicians are unforgiving. From the excellent café-restaurant Cantino on the top level you can enjoy a wonderful view across the city's rooftops.

Go along Krugerstrasse to Akademiestrasse, continuing across Kärntner Ring to arrive at Bösendorferstrasse.

Musikverein

(Entrance Bösendorferstrasse 12 (guided tours: tel. +43 1 505 81 90, www.musikverein.at)

The **Golden Hall** of the Vienna Musikverein is probably the world's most famous concert hall thanks to the worldwide broadcast of the Vienna Philharmonic's annual New Year's Day Concert. The Society of the Friends of Music is the "landlord" of the building and the world famous Vienna Philharmonic its best-known tenant.

Johann Strauss composed the waltz "Freut Euch des Lebens" for the opening ball in January 1870. The Waltz King dedicated "Seid umschlungen Millionen" to his friend **Johannes Brahms** (b. 1833 Hamburg – d. 1897 Vienna), who came to Vienna at the age of 29 and at 39 took over the artistic directorship of the Society concerts. He had a regular seat in the Director's box in the Golden Hall and the second largest concert hall in the building now bears his name.

Brahms was born in Hamburg six years after Beethoven's death. In Vienna he felt particularly close to his idol. In a letter to a friend he once wrote: "I will never write a symphony. You have no idea what it is like for me to feel such a giant constantly marching behind me". In the end Brahms did compose four symphonies. He never married and died at the age of 64. You can find his statue nearby between the Musikverein and the Church of St. Charles Borromeo (Karlskirche) in Resselpark. His honorary grave is in the Central Cemetery (Zentralfriedhof) alongside Strauss, Beethoven and Schubert.

Vienna State Opera

(1st district, Kärntner Ring, www.wiener-staatsoper.at)

The State Opera opened on May 25, 1869 with Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and has enjoyed a first class reputation in the music world ever since. Prominent directors such as **Gustav Mahler, Richard Strauss, Karl Krauss, Karl Böhm** and **Herbert von Karajan** have left their mark. The building was badly damaged in World War II. It remained closed until 1955 when it was reopened after extensive reconstruction with a performance of **Beethoven's** "Fidelio".

*At the back of the opera – Philharmonikerstrasse 2 (between Sacher Eck and the entrance to the Hotel Sacher) – you can see a plaque honoring **Antonio Vivaldi** who lived in the house that used to stand on this site and died on July 28, 1741. Continue straight ahead to Hanuschgasse where on the left you will find the*

State Opera Museum

(1st district, Goethegasse/Hanuschgasse; Tue-Sun 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.)

Opera lovers are in their element here. Photos, costumes, stage design models, play bills and interesting documents take you on a journey through the last 50 years of the Vienna State Opera.

*At Albertinaplatz you can stop off at the Tourist Information Office or the Café Mozart opposite. Café Mozart is located on the site of the former Kärntnertor Theater (1763 - 1868) where Beethoven conducted the premiere of his Ninth Symphony. Augustinergasse takes you to Josefsplatz. But why not take a **Musical-culinary detour** along Spiegelgasse to Graben and back along Dorotheergasse:*

Antonio Salieri (memorial plaque) lived and died in the house that used to be at Spiegelgasse. 11. **Franz Schubert** composed his Symphony in B minor (the "Unfinished", memorial plaque) at **no. 9** between 1822-23. At Dorotheergasse 2-4 **Reinthaler's Beisl** serves Viennese specialties (11 a.m. – 11 p.m. daily). Next door is **Café Hawelka** – a meeting place for artists and literati with its own

legendary *Buchteln* buns after 10 p.m. Across the street you will find the “unspeakably good” Viennese sandwich king, **Trzesniewski. Conradin Kreutzer**, the dedicatee of Beethoven’s Kreutzer Sonata lived in the house next door (memorial plaque). At no. 10 the **Doblinger** music shop sets the pulse of music fans racing. Number 11 is home to the Jewish Museum, and the records of the **Protestant Church** at no. 18 recall several “musical” events (the blessing of Johann Strauss jnr and Johannes Brahms, the weddings of Arnold Schoenberg and Alexander von Zemlinsky, and Franz Schmidt’s death). Across the street is the **Dorotheum** auction house with a café on the second floor.

Backtrack a few steps and you come to the

Theater Museum in Lobkowitz Palace

(1st district, Lobkowitzplatz 2, Tue-Sun, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., www.theatermuseum.at, discount for Vienna Card holders)

This is a genuinely unique museum that theater fans should make time for. Generations of the Lobkowitz princes were not only owners of this palace but also generous patrons of various musicians. Beneficiaries of this generosity included **Christoph Willibald Gluck** (b. 1714 Erasbach – d. 1787 Vienna). Empress Maria Theresia appointed the composer to teach to some of her 16 children, including Marie Antoinette who later became the queen of King Louis XVI and an advocate in Paris for her former teacher. Gluck was a reformer of opera and was highly regarded in the music world. Mozart, for example, placed great value on the support of his fatherly friend.

Ludwig van Beethoven conducted his third symphony in the room here now known as the Eroica Room. It was a private performance for the composer’s great supporter, Franz Joseph Maximilian Prince Lobkowitz, whose contribution to a life-long allowance for Beethoven helped persuade the famous composer to remain in Vienna.

Walk along Augustinerstrasse to

Josefsplatz

The square is named for Emperor Joseph II, the son and successor to Empress Maria Theresia. He was not only a great reformer but also an accomplished musician and composer. Many a famous musician has had to cross Josefsplatz to reach key performance venues such as the Redoutensäle, the National Library, the Church of the Augustinian Friars and the Pallavicini and Pallfy palaces. Many of these venues are still used on occasions for musical performances.

Michaelerplatz/St Michael’s Church (Michaelerkirche)

The 17-year old **Joseph Haydn** played the organ here in 1749. He lived next door in a small attic room, where he worked as an employee of the composer Nicola Porpora and got to know the court poet Pietro Metastasio, who also had lodgings there. Metastasio’s remains were laid to rest in the crypt of St Michael’s, and **W. A. Mozart’s** Requiem was performed here for the first time, during his funeral service only a few days after his death. To your right just after you enter the church you will find two somber reliefs with the following text: “A funeral service for Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was held in this church on December 10, 1791 during which parts of his Requiem were heard for the first time.”

When you leave St Michael’s you come out at Michaelerplatz. St Michael’s Arch takes you into the grounds of Hofburg Palace. To the left of the arch you will find a memorial plaque that states: “Here stood the **old Burgtheater** until 1888. Emperor Josef II founded it as the national theater in 1776.” It was used not only as a theater for plays but also as an opera house and concert hall. It was the venue of the premieres of Gluck’s “Orpheus and Eurydice” and Mozart’s operas “The Abduction from the Seraglio”, “The Marriage of Figaro” and “Cosi fan tutte”. Haydn’s “Emperor’s Hymn” was also first heard here, to great acclaim. Haydn composed it for the birthday of Emperor Franz II (February 12,

1797). Its melody was to be Austria's national anthem until 1918 and again from 1929 to 1938. It remains the melody of the German national anthem to this day.

Walk through St Michael's Arch and enjoy a stroll through the magnificent Hofburg precincts. There are also "musical treasures" to be discovered here:

EXTRA TIP – during the warmer months: The original Hoch- und Deutschmeister Palace Guards

(Inner courtyard; Sat 11 a.m. – 12 noon from late April to mid-October, for free)

Live nostalgia. Just like in the days of the Emperor, every Saturday from late April through mid-October the band of the Original Hoch- und Deutschmeister in their traditional blue uniforms march from Graben to the Inner Palace Courtyard – with music including the melodies of Franz Lehár, Robert Stolz and Johann Strauss.

The ensemble forms at the inner court yard of Hofburg Palace at 11 a.m. They perform there, marching to music through the St Michael arch, then along Kohlmarkt until Graben. Then they return to the Hofburg court yard, where they give a 40-minute rendition of works by the Strausses, Franz Lehár, Carl Michael Ziehrer and Robert Stolz. The 35 musicians range in age from 19 to 82 and the history of the band reaches back to 1741.

Hofburg Chapel (Burgkapelle)

(Schweizerhof, viewing times: Mon–Thu 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Fri 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

The Imperial Court Chapel has played a key role in Austria's music history. Many members of the Imperial family had outstanding musical training and were patrons of the best performers of their day, many of whom gave performances in Hofburg Chapel. Today you can hear the Vienna Boys' Choir here as part of religious services (Sept.-June, www.wsk.at).

As you stand on Heldenplatz square look over to the broad steps of the New Palace (Neue Burg). Here you will find the

Collection of Historical Musical Instruments

(Neue Burg, Wed-Mon, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., www.khm.at, discount for Vienna Card holders)

If you are partial to both old musical instruments and imperial ambience, then this is just the place for you. Borrow an Audio Guide and walk through the collection. On show are priceless historical items such as the grand pianos played by Chopin, Beethoven, Johann Strauss, Liszt, Schumann, Brahms and royal family members and one of Leopold Mozart's violins. They are joined by a host of curiosities such as instruments from the Biedermeier period that can be transformed into walking sticks, space-saving pyramid and giraffe pianos, a so-called *Schrankklavier* and a "silent" piano for finger practice. You can listen to the only surviving original recording by the Johann Strauss band, of the *Frühlingsstimmen Waltz*, recorded on wax cylinders of a phonograph invented by Thomas A. Edison in 1877. The zither of **Anton Karas** is also on display. Karas rose to world fame and riches with just one composition, the theme tune to the movie "The Third Man".

Directly opposite the Neue Burg is the Volksgarten with its congenial dance café where **Johann Strauss** and his band used to play for dances. These accomplished musicians premiered parts of Wagner's opera "Tristan and Isolde" in 1860.

Leave the Palace grounds via the Burgtor arch and turn left along the Ring Boulevard towards the Palace Gardens (Burggarten). Enter the park at the first gate.

Mozart Statue

(1st district, Burggarten)

From spring through autumn this statue (created by Viktor Tilgner in 1896) has in front of it a lawn featuring flowers in the form of a treble clef. The spires of St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Augustine Church merge with the old trees and flowering bushes of the park to give a vibrant cityscape. At the front of the pedestal there is a relief with a scene from "Don Giovanni". Above that is a stone keyboard, masks, instruments and musical *putti*. The rear features Wolferl, the child protégé at the piano, with his sister, Nannerl and father, Leopold Mozart.

Take the no. 1 tram along the Ring Boulevard to the Rathausplatz/Burgtheater stop.

Statue of Johann Strauss senior and Joseph Lanner

(1st district, Rathauspark – in the left half of the Park when viewed from the Burgtheater)

The two forefathers of the Viennese waltz have been immortalized here by the "grateful citizens of Vienna" (designed by Franz Seifert in 1905).

Johann Strauss SENIOR – Johann Strauss JUNIOR: The similarity of name between the two waltz legends often causes confusion. To make things worse, papa Strauss also had two other musical sons, Josef and Eduard. And then there is Richard Strauss and Oscar Straus, neither of whom is related to "the Strausses". Here are a few facts to clear up any confusion:

Johann Strauss SENIOR, 1804 – 1849, compositions include the "Radetzky March"

Johann Strauss JUNIOR, 1825 – 1899, the "Waltz King", works include the "Blue Danube Waltz", "Die Fledermaus" and "The Gypsy Baron".

Josef Strauss, 1827 – 1870, the second son, wrote "Dorfschwalben aus Österreich" (Austrian Village Swallows), "Sphärenklänge" (Sounds of the Spheres) etc.

Eduard Strauss, 1835 – 1916, the third son, wrote around 300 dances

Richard Strauss, 1864 – 1949, not related to any of the above composers, works include "Der Rosenkavalier", "Die Frau ohne Schatten" etc.

Oscar Straus, 1870 – 1954, also no relation to any of the above musicians, composed "Ein Walzertraum" etc.

And who was **Joseph Lanner** (b. 1801 Vienna – d. 1843 Vienna) the man who also appears with father Strauss on the monument? He was also a gifted waltz composer. He was only 18 when he accepted the 15-year old Johann Strauss senior into his quartet. They composed and played dance music in inns, cafés and at balls. Their waltzes were so energetic and they played with such enthusiasm that they intoxicated the public. Engagements became more frequent, the orchestra expanded and soon they were making multiple appearances per night.

At the age of 21 Strauss senior finally broke off from Lanner and started his own orchestra before successfully touring throughout Europe. Joseph Lanner chose to remain faithful to his Viennese public. Lanner died at the age of 42; his friend Johann followed him not long after at the age of 45. Vienna was in mourning!

Every year in July and August the wonderful **open-air Music Film Festival** takes place on **City Hall Square (Rathausplatz)**. Concert, opera and operetta performances are shown on the big screen and entry is free. Food booths sell culinary specialties from around the world (www.wien-event.at).

Now cross the Ring Boulevard. From here it is only a few steps to the Mölker Bastei (see city map). Steps lead to the

Pasqualati House

(1st district, Mölker Bastei, Tue-Sun, publ. hols. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 6 p.m., closed on 1.1., 1.5., 25.5., publ. hol. if Mon; www.wienmuseum.at)

The **Beethoven museum** is located on the fourth floor. You can reach it via the steps that the master himself often used. Beethoven spent the winter months here several times between 1804 and 1814. In summer he usually headed for the country. The composer switched residence around 70 times during his time in Vienna, so his extended association with this address is noteworthy.

Many of Beethoven's personal effects are on display here and his famous compositions can be listened to on headphones. In Beethoven's day the house commanded a view across the city suburbs to the hills of the Vienna Woods. The view inspired many of the great master's most important works. It was here that he wrote "Für Therese" – a piece that he dedicated to his great love, Therese von Malfatti. Today the piece is known by the title "Für Elise" after a copyist's error.

As you leave the building take a look at the neighboring **Dreimäderlhaus**, famous for its association with stories surrounding **Franz Schubert**.

From here it is only a short walk to the Schottentor underground and tram station where you take the no. 37 tram. The next stop is called Schwarzspanierstrasse, where the building stood where Beethoven died during a violent winter storm on March 26, 1827 (see the plaque at no. 15).

Also of interest is no. 19 Berggasse, home to the **Sigmund Freud Museum** (9 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily, www.freud-museum.at, discount for Vienna Card holders).

Continue on the no. 37 tram to the Canisiusgasse stop. Alight and walk to

Schubert's Birth House

(9th district, Nussdorfer Strasse 54, Tue-Sun, public holidays 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 2 – 6 p.m., www.wienmuseum.at)

It would be nice to think that the Schubert family had the whole house at their disposal. In fact it was only a very small apartment in which **Franz Schubert** was born (supposedly in the smoke chamber) as the twelfth child of a teacher's family. The young Franz was soon aware of his special talent, but was never able to exploit it, despite producing an expansive oeuvre comprising some 600 songs, nine symphonies and 16 operas. He went down in musical history as the "Prince of Song".

At the age of just 31 he died completely destitute in his brother's apartment, where there is now a memorial room: **Schubert's Death Chamber** (4th district, Kettenbrückengasse 6, Fri-Sun, public holidays 2 – 6 p.m., www.wienmuseum.at).

Extra tour 1: to the WINE TAVERNS (*Heurigers*)

Our walk in the footsteps of the famous musicians now comes to an end. A visit to one of the wine taverns in Nussdorf or Heiligenstadt would round off the day nicely. You could also combine this with a detour to one or two musical memorials. For this option, continue on the no. 37 tram to the Pokornystasse stop.

Eroica House

(19th district, Döblinger Hauptstrasse 92, Attention: the museum **opens only upon request in advance** – please call Tel. +43 1 505 87 47-85173 when planning a visit, www.wienmuseum.at)

Beethoven worked on a substantial part of his "Eroica" symphony here in 1803 and 1804.

Continue on the no. 37 tram to the Hohe Warte stop and walk to the entrance of Heiligenstädter Park (please use the entrance closest to the stop). Here you will find an impressive

Beethoven Memorial

This portrayal comes close to what **Beethoven** really looked like as he roamed through Heiligenstadt (the name of this suburb) and its vineyards, with his unruly shock of hair, his notebooks and conversation books always at the ready in his coat pocket, loudly humming to himself and sometimes gesticulating wildly in his battle with deafness. In Beethoven's day there were therapeutic baths where the park is now located and the composer came here in the hope of finding relief from his suffering. He spent several summers here.

Leave the park heading towards Grinzinger Strasse, walk along Armbrustergasse and turn into Probusgasse where you will find the

Heiligenstadt Testament House

(19th district, Probusgasse 6, Tue-Sun, publ. hols. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 6 p.m., closed on 1.1., 1.5., 25.5., publ. hol. if Mon; www.wienmuseum.at)

Beethoven wrote his "Heiligenstadt Testament" in this house. In fact it was a letter to his brothers that he never posted. It was written in desperation as, at the age of just 32 and in the middle of writing his Symphony No. 2, Beethoven realized that his deafness was incurable. Despite all the misery and physical and mental anguish he suffered, Beethoven continued for another 25 years writing his great symphonies and other unique works of music in a world of silence.

On leaving the memorial house continue along Probusgasse towards Pfarrplatz, passing - or visiting - some of the charming wine taverns such as Mayer am Pfarrplatz. Beethoven lived and worked in this quaint building for a short time in 1817. Round off your tour in the footsteps of the famous musicians with a glass of wine in one of the wine taverns or a walk along the Beethoven Trail (Beethoven Gang) through the nearby vineyards.

Extra tour 2: Central CEMETERY (ZENTRALFRIEDHOF)

(11th district, Simmeringer Hauptstrasse 234, May-August 7 a.m. – 7 p.m., March, April, September, October 7 a.m. – 6 p.m., November-February 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., www.vienna.gv.at)

Take the no.71 tram directly to the main gate (Tor 2) of Vienna's Central Cemetery. Staff will be able to provide you with a map of the cemetery, listing all the tombs of honor.

You really should allow plenty of time for this cemetery. The Dr. Karl Lueger Church is also well worth a visit (www.luegerkirche.at). There is hardly anywhere else where will you find so many honorary graves in one place.

The composers **Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Schubert, Johann Strauss senior, Johann Strauss junior**, his brothers **Eduard** and **Josef**, **Josef Lanner, Carl Michael Ziehrer, Johannes Brahms, Christoph Willibald Gluck, Antonio Salieri, Arnold Schoenberg, Robert Stolz, Emmerich Kálmán, Hugo Wolf, Franz von Suppé** and **Karl Millöcker** are all buried here and there is a monument to **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**. Also buried here in this 2.7 km² cemetery are the popular actors **Hans Moser** and **Paul Hörbiger**, film-legends **Curd Jürgens** and **Theo Lingen**, pop star **Falco**, playwright **Johann Nestroy** as well as the authors **Arthur Schnitzler** and **Friedrich Torberg**.

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