

New Year's Eve 2011/12: Welcome to Vienna

Vienna is THE city of bon vivants. This is particularly true on New Year's Eve when the old town is given over to exuberant celebration and dance – when high spirits abound, whether at gala dinners, prestigious balls, concert halls or chic bars.

Superb **exhibitions** and a dazzling array of **events, concerts, operas, operettas** and the hit **musicals** “Ich war noch niemals in New York” (I've never been to New York) and “Sister Act” promise a New Year's Eve program brimming with excitement throughout the day and night.

On 31 December, **Vienna's old city center** transforms into a giant party zone: Top entertainment is guaranteed by the **New Year's Path**, which winds its way from City Hall through the narrow lanes of the city center. Along the New Year's Path, numerous gastronomes serve you punch and culinary treats. About 70 stations provide humorous entertainment with a show program, waltzes, an operetta, rock, pop and folk music as well as a DJ line-up. The Vienna Dance Schools offer crash courses in the waltz, and **large fireworks** display draw the crowds to the **Prater** and **Heldenplatz**.

A unique New Year's atmosphere can also be enjoyed on a boat trip along the Danube, at the **Imperial Ball in Hofburg Palace** and at **New Year galas held in City Hall** and the city's leading hotels. The Majestic Emperor train, a “palace on rails”, allows you to ride into the New Year in luxurious style, while the Vienna State Opera once again stages its traditional performance of **Johann Strauss' “Die Fledermaus”**.

New Year's Day in Vienna will be greeted in classic fashion with a morning “hangover cure” brunch – featuring the **Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Day concert** on a big screen – in front of City Hall.

The following pages are a guide to when and where you can best celebrate in Vienna. All prices are per person. For further information to help you plan your visit to Vienna, go to **WWW.VIENNA.INFO** or call one of the contact numbers shown below:

USA and Canada

Tel. USA: 212 944-6880
Tel. Canada: 416 967-3381
Fax 212 730-4568
travel@austria.info

UK and Ireland

Tel. UK: 0845 101 18 18
Fax 0845 101 18 19
Tel. Ireland: 189 093 01 18
Fax: 189 093 01 19
Holiday@austria.info

Australia

Tel. 02-9299 3621
Fax 02-9299 3808
info@antosyd.org.au

Austria

Vienna Tourist Board
1020 Vienna
Tel. (+43 1) 24 555
Fax (+43 1) 24 555-666
info@vienna.info

Gala Balls

Imperial Ball in Hofburg Palace

New Year's Eve in the sign of love: The 42nd Imperial Ball in Hofburg Palace on 31 December. Under the motto "Aspects of Love", romantic melodies by great musical composers such as Andrew Lloyd Webber and Leonard Bernstein will accompany you throughout the evening. At the opening, stage star Maya Hkvoort sings the song "I belong only to me" from the musical "Elisabeth". To dance merrily into the New Year, however, the traditional "Blue Danube" waltz is an absolute must.

The highlights of New Year's Eve include the opening by the debutants' committee with the traditional Fächerpolonaise, the welcome by the Colloredo Grenadiers, numerous live bands, the sound of the Pummerin and the "Blue Danube" waltz at midnight as well as the popular quadrilles. Visitors to the ball will also be treated to an exquisite gala dinner.

Hofburg, 31 December, Heldenplatz entrance. Dinner: doors open at 7:30 p.m. (tickets at EUR 430 or EUR 520). Ball: admission from 10:00 p.m. (tickets from EUR 140; EUR 60 for students). Ticket reservations: Vienna Hofburg, 1st district, Heldenplatz, tel. +43 (0)1 587 36 66 23, fax +43 (0)1 535 64 26, e-mail: kaiserball@hofburg.com, online bookings: **www.kaiserball.com**.

Palais Ferstel

The Wiener Ballensemble Johann Strauss and a swinging dance band, "Broadway", provide the musical entertainment at the New Year's Gala at Palais Ferstel. Welcome in the New Year to an exhilarating 6-course New Year's Eve menu, the traditional "Blue Danube" waltz and the sounds of the Pummerin in the splendid rooms of the former imperial stock exchange.

Palais Ferstel, 1st Viennese district, Strauchgasse 4, December 31. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Musical program starts at 8:00 p.m. EUR 195. Reservations: tel. +43 (0)1 533 37 63-32, e-mail: sales@palaisevents.at, **www.palaisevents.at**

Vienna Kursalon

The Vienna Kursalon invites you to a New Year's Eve with typical Viennese flair. Enjoy a classical New Year's Eve concert, pamper yourself with a four-course gourmet dinner, brush up on your dance skills with a waltz workshop, experience midnight musical fireworks on the beautiful terrace with a view of the Stadtpark, and dance until the small hours of the morning.

Kursalon, 1st Viennese district, Johannesgasse 33; December 31 from 8:00 p.m.; gala dinner starts at 6:00 p.m., various offers and categories, prices range from EUR 50 to EUR 330.

Information & reservations: Sound of Vienna in the Kursalon Wien, tel. +43 (0)1 512 57 90, tel. +43 (0)1 512 57 91, fax +43 (0)1 512 57 91, e-mail: sound@soundofvienna.at, **www.soundofvienna.at**

New Year's Eve Gala in Vienna City Hall

The annual New Year's Eve gala in the impressive banquet hall of the Vienna City Hall is for those who want to end the year in style while experiencing an elegant traditional Viennese ball. A classical orchestra and a live band will entice everyone to the dance floor. Professional dancers and solo singers from renowned Austrian stages will present a traditionally styled show at around midnight,

while a delicious international buffet dinner from the kitchen of the Rathauskeller will leave nothing to be desired.

Rathaus, 1st district, Festsaal, December 31. Admission at 7:00 p.m. Gala banquet commences: 8:00 p.m., ball opening: 9:45 p.m., ticket prices: category A – EUR 320 / category B – EUR 280, ball ticket EUR 120, reservations: Wiener Rathauskeller, tel. +43 (0)1 503 74 43 12, e-mail: info@silvestergala.com, www.silvestergala.com

New Year's Eve Banquets

New Year's Eve in the Vienna Rathauskeller

Indulge yourself for an evening in the heart of Vienna and enjoy the New Year's gala menu by award-winning chef Helmut Österreicher in the traditional ambience of the Rathauskeller. After a welcome cocktail, a 5-course menu will be served under the motto "Gourmet dreams at the change of the year". You can dance into the New Year to the melodies of waltz music. An ensemble will play classical Viennese music and modern pieces and opera singers will perform the most popular operettas. The 'Blue Danube' waltz will be played at midnight.

Wiener Rathauskeller, 1st Viennese district, Rathausplatz 1, December 31; doors open at 7 p.m., gala opening at 8 p.m.; EUR 215 per person incl. table wines, beer, soft drinks, coffee, champagne at midnight and entertainment program.

Reservations: Wiener Rathauskeller, 1st Viennese district, Rathausplatz 1, tel. +43 (0)1 405 12 10, fax +43 (0)1 405 12 19-27, e-mail: office@wiener-rathauskeller.at, www.wiener-rathauskeller.at

Palais Todesco

The magnificent salons of the Gerstner Belerage in Palais Todesco, situated right in the heart of Vienna, offer a unique view of the Vienna State Opera and an imperial ambience for the end of the year. Guests at the New Year's Eve Gala Dinner are treated to all sorts of culinary delicacies from the Gerstner gourmet kitchen as well as live music.

Gerstner Beletage in Todesco Palace, 1st Viennese district, Kärntner Straße 51, December 31; doors open at 7:00 p.m., start at 7:30 p.m.; EUR 155 per person for gala buffet incl. 1 glass of champagne (other drinks not included) and live music. Reservations: tel. +43 (0)1 743 22-7859, e-mail: beletage@gerstner.at, www.gerstner.at

New Year's Eve Balls and Gala Events at Hotels in Vienna

Hotel Am Parkring, Parkring 12, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 514 50 417, fax +43 (0)1 514 80 40

E-mail: parkring@schick-hotels.com, www.das-schick.com

Celebrate above the rooftops of Vienna and ring in the New Year at the Das Schick restaurant on the twelfth storey of a horticultural high-rise situated right on the Ring Strasse. Here you can enjoy a panoramic view of the New Year's Eve fireworks and Viennese inner-city celebrations without having to walk. New Year's Eve package: EUR 195 per person, December 31. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Hotel Bristol, Kärntner Ring 1, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 515 16 0, fax +43 (0)1 515 16 550

E-mail: hotel.bristol@luxurycollection.com, www.bristolvienna.com

Restaurant Korso – which has received many awards – with modern onyx elements in the quaint dining room of the Bristol Hotel offers a 5-course gala menu from 6:00 p.m. onward on New Year's Eve. EUR 395 per person incl. cover charge and matching wines. December 31, from 6:00 p.m.

Sirk – which overlooks the Vienna State Opera decorated with festive lighting – in the Bristol Hotel offers a 4-course gala menu on New Year's Eve. EUR 275 per person incl. cover charge and matching wines. December 31, from 6:00 p.m.

New Year's Day brunch on January 1 in Restaurant Korso from 12 noon until 2:30 p.m.: EUR 72 per person incl. cover charge. Children under 12 years get a 50 % discount; no charge for children under 6 years.

Hotel de France, Schottenring 3, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 313 68 3381, fax +43 (0)1 319 59 69

E-mail: bankett@hoteldefrance.at, www.hoteldefrance.at

Experience a magical New Year's Eve gala event. See in the New Year in a magical setting with live music and dance, framed by a sumptuous gala buffet. A Viennese goulash soup will be served at 1:00 a.m. December 31, from 8:00 p.m., music and dancing until 3:00 a.m., EUR 199 per person (incl. 1 glass of sparkling wine as an aperitif, water, wine and coffee).

Grand Hotel Wien, Kärntner Ring 9, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 515 80 730, fax +43 (0)1 515 13 15

E-mail: schadim@jjwhotels.com, www.grandhotelwien.com

A New Year's Eve gala with banquet, live music and dancing will take place in the Quadrille ballroom: December 31, from 9:00 p.m.; EUR 260.

A gala dinner will be served in Restaurant Le Ciel – awarded with two toques by Gault Millau – and will leave nothing to be desired. Price per person: EUR330.

In the Japanese Unkai Restaurant – likewise awarded with two toques – you can enjoy oriental cuisine in the form of a 9-course menu consisting of specialties. Price: EUR 204 per person.

The Grand Café offers an appealing combination of menu and buffet for EUR 169 per person. Two live bands will provide a lively atmosphere and invite you to dance from 9:00 p.m. onward. A second musical band creates a relaxed atmosphere in the hotel lobby.

In the Rosengarten and Kavalierbar (smoking bar) we offer a New Year's Eve special for EUR 55 per person. This includes a glass of champagne and assorted snacks. All guests with a reservation can enjoy the musical programs both in the ballroom and in the hotel lobby.

Hotel Imperial, Kärntner Ring 16, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 501 10 6400, fax +43 (0)1 501 10 306

E-mail: hotel.imperial@luxurycollection.com, www.hotelimperialwien.at

Treat yourself to exquisite culinary delights and sophisticated entertainment at the resplendent Hotel Imperial.

New Year's Eve gala event with 5-course dinner incl. wine to complement the meal, champagne as an aperitif and a music program. December 31 from 8:00 p.m. in Restaurant Imperial at EUR 510 or from 9:00 p.m. in the banquet halls with entertainment (Hallensalon EUR 550/banquet hall and marble hall EUR 480).

New Year's Day brunch from 12:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. on January 1 in the banquet halls of Hotel Imperial: 1 glass of champagne to start the New Year in a festive mood and an Imperial New Year's Day buffet with lively background music. Price: EUR 139 per person.

On New Year's Day, you can choose between a 3 or 4-course menu for EUR 125 or EUR 140 p.p. respectively in the restaurant of the Imperial Hotel. Times: from 12 noon until 3:00 p.m. or between 6:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

InterContinental Wien, Johannesgasse 20, A-1030 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 711 22 110, fax +43 (0)1 713 44 89

E-mail: vienna@ihg.com, www.vienna.intercontinental.com

New Year's Eve gala buffet in the Salon Vier Jahreszeiten or Salon Kaunitz dining rooms with oyster bar, champagne pyramid and live entertainment. December 31, from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.; EUR 229 per person incl. welcome drink, wine with the meal, non-alcoholic beverages and tea or coffee.

Large New Year's Eve buffet in the Johann Strauss ballroom: Austrian delicacies, live music and New Year's Eve traditions such as "Bleigiessen" – the custom of pouring molten lead into cold water in order to tell one's fortune for the coming year from the resulting shapes! 31 December, 6:30 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.; EUR 159 per person incl. wine, beer and non-alcoholic beverages.

New Year's Eve party in the Intermezzo bar: Live music, DJ, champagne specialities, cold and hot snacks. December 31, from 6:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m.; free entrance, billed according to consumption.

New Year's Day brunch in the Salon Vier Jahreszeiten/Salon Kaunitz dining rooms with unlimited champagne and live screening of the New Year's Day concert. January 1, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.; EUR 69 per person incl. champagne, non-alcoholic beverages and tea or coffee.

Hotel Kahlenberg, Kahlenberg terrace, Am Kahlenberg 2-3; tel. +43 (0)1 328 15 00 901, fax +43 1 328 15 03

E-mail: events@kahlenberg.eu, www.kahlenberg.eu

Welcome to Vienna's highest New Year's Eve gala event. Let yourself be amazed by the breathtaking view over the rooftops of Vienna and enjoy New Year celebrations to the full. Individuality is very important us, which is why we offer an eventful program and a variety of New Year's Eve packages from as little as EUR 99. Savor the culinary creativity of our kitchen staff and end the year in style and with the best possible outlook. December 31, starts at 6:00 p.m.

Vienna Marriott Hotel, Parkring 12a, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 515 18 0, fax +43 (0)1 515 18 6736

E-mail: vienna.marriott.info@marriotthotels.com, www.viennamarriott.at

Ring in the New Year at an exquisite New Year's Eve gala dinner from 8:00 p.m. with a release of balloons and international show bands. Prices range from EUR 92 in the Garden Café and the Cascade Bar to EUR 198 in the Parkring Restaurant. Then, begin the year on January 1 over a relaxed New Year's brunch in the Parkring Restaurant (EUR 45 per person) or from 11:00 a.m. in the banquet room with a broadcast of the New Year's Day concert (EUR 68 per person).

Palais Coburg, Coburgbastei 4, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 518 18-170, fax +43 (0)1 518 18-100

E-mail: events@palais-coburg.com, www.palais-coburg.com

Gala dinner in the Silvio Nickel Gourmet Restaurant Palais Coburg: celebrate the new year in the exclusive ambience of the new gourmet restaurant. Silvio Nickel and his team create refined compositions with a special touch. After the gala dinner, the Coburg invites you to the New Year's party in the Kasematten, the mediaeval vaults. Price: EUR 500 per person, with wine, EUR 290 per person without wine. December 31, start: 8.00 pm.

New Year's Eve menu in the Basteigarten Restaurant: Spend a special New Year's Eve in the Basteigarten Restaurant at Palais Coburg and be treated to culinary highlights and a glass of champagne at midnight. The Coburg then invites you to the New Year's Eve part in the Kasematten, the mediaeval vaults. Price: EUR 245 per person, with wine, EUR 170 per person, without wine. December 31, start: 8.00 pm.

New Year's Eve gala in the staterooms: Savor the end of the year in the historic flair of the staterooms in Palais Coburg. Exquisite wines and innovative creations by chef Silvio Nickel are served. Next, the Coburg invites you to the New Year's Eve party in the Kasematten. Price: EUR 79 per person. December 31, start: 7:00 p.m.

In the impressive underworld of the Palais Coburg, the Kasematten, a unique New Year's Eve party with music and dance gets underway at midnight.

Hotel Sacher, Philharmoniker Strasse 4, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 514 56 ext. 846 or 893, fax +43 (0)1 514 56 810

E-mail: kteigschl@sacher.com, www.sacher.com

This Viennese institution offers a richly varied New Year's program. In addition to a grand New Year's Eve gala event with a four-course dinner starting at 10 p.m. (EUR 370) or a six-course dinner starting at 8 p.m. (EUR 412), you could also enjoy a light New Year's Eve menu from 5 to 9 p.m. (EUR 151). For January 1, a New Year's Day brunch is offered from 12 noon until 3 p.m. (EUR 102).

Hotel Stefanie, Tabor Strasse 12, A-1020 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 211 50 423; fax +43 (0)1 211 50 526

E-mail: stefanie@schick-hotels.com, www.kronprinz-rudolph.at

Celebrate the New Year in the elegant ambience of the Restaurant Kronprinz Rudolph – with lots of tradition and Viennese charm. The New Year's Eve package for the price of EUR 120 per person (gala dinner, aperitif, show, sparkling wine and snacks at midnight in the Hofgarten etc.). Doors open at 7:30 p.m. on December 31.

Hotel Schloss Wilhelminenberg, Savoyen Strasse 2, A-1160 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 485 85 03 500, fax +43 (0)1 485 48 76

E-mail: schloss.wilhelminenberg@austria-trend.at, www.austria-trend.at/wiw

The Hotel Schloss Wilhelminenberg looks forward to treating you to a gala buffet and musical live entertainment on New Year's Eve – as well as to a unique view of Vienna by night. EUR 145 per person incl. aperitif (sparkling wine, sparkling wine and orange juice, wine, beer, non-alcoholic beverages), gala dinner, 1 glass of sparkling wine at midnight, Viennese goulash soup at midnight. December 31, sparkling wine reception from 7 p.m.

ARCOTEL Wimberger, Neubaugürtel 34-36, A-1070 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 521 65 815, fax +43 (0)1 521 65 833

E-mail: bankett.wimberger@arcotelhotels.com, www.arcotelhotels.com/wimberger

The all-inclusive New Year's Eve dinner in Wimberger's Restaurant on December 31 from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. consists of a seven-course gala menu with drinks, draft beer, live music at dinner time and disco music in Joe's Bar, free admission to dance and show in the Wimberger Room from 1:00 a.m., EUR 99 per person. No charge for children under the age of seven. Children aged seven to twelve years: EUR 50.

All-inclusive New Year's Eve gala event in Wimberger's ballroom on December 31 from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. consisting of a gala buffet with Austrian and international specialties, live dance music, drinks, draft beer, the traditional pouring of lead, live transmission of the Pummerin and the "Blue Danube" waltz on a big screen, a midnight show event and disco music in Joe's Bar. Price: EUR 154 per person. No charge for children under the age of seven. Children aged seven to twelve years: EUR 75.

Hilton Vienna, Am Stadtpark 1, A-1030 Vienna, tel. +43 (0)1 71700-0, fax +43 (0)1 7130691

E-mail: info.vienna@hilton.com, www.hilton.at/wien

Bid farewell to the old year at a festive buffet with champagne aperitif and selected Austrian wines at S'PARKS restaurant. Afterwards, dance energetically into the New Year in the lobby bar, accompanied by live music and midnight snacks. EUR 189 per person. December 31 from 6:00 p.m.

Greet the New Year at our lavish brunch buffet, with unlimited Prosecco, and follow the live broadcast of the New Year's Concert on XXL screens. EUR 56 per person. January 1 from 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Hilton Vienna Plaza, 1., Schottenring 11, Tel. +43 (0)1 313 900, fax +43 (0)1 313 902 20 09

E-mail: info.vienna@hilton.com, www.hiltonaustria.at

New Year's Eve gala dinner on 31 December from 6.30 pm: festive gala dinner in "La Scala", Including coffee with petits fours and piano accompaniment. EUR 93 per person for a 5-course menu, EUR 109 per person for a 6-course menu.

At midnight, you have the unique opportunity to celebrate the change of year on our terrace on the tenth floor. Enjoy the view of Vienna and St. Stephan's Cathedral, as well as the numerous fireworks in the vicinity. Admission includes a glass of champagne: EUR 9 per person.

Hilton Vienna Danube, 2., Handelskai 269, Tel. 43 1 727 77-2120, fax +43 1 727 77-882 20

E-mail: info.vienna@hilton.com, www.hiltonaustria.at

Round off the last evening of the year at a festive gala buffet with champagne aperitif. Waiting for you are delights such as young saddle of venison in puff pastry and an oyster bar, as well as delicious dessert buffet. At the bar, a DJ provides you with the right music for the change of year. EUR 110 per person incl. drinks. December 31 from 6:00 p.m.

New Year's brunch with Prosecco, oysters, fillet steaks, premium fish and much more for EUR 54 per person incl. beer, wine and alcoholic drinks. January 1 from 12.00 p.m.

Enjoy a different kind of New Year's concert over Prosecco and canapés: from 11.00 am at a live broadcast in the Executive Lounge on the eighth floor. EUR 15 per person incl. Prosecco and canapés.

Radisson Blu Style Hotel, 1., Herrengasse 12, Tel. +43 1 22 780 0, Fax +43 1 22 780 79

E-mail: banquet.style.vienna@radissonblu.com, www.radissonblu.com/stylehotel-vienna

A 4-course gala menu awaits guests on New Year's Eve in the restaurant "Sapori". Price: EUR 75 per person.

The stylish wine bar H12 offers a stylish start to New Year's Eve with a fine ensemble of culinary delicacies: a composition of oysters, prawns, smoked salmon and Nordic caviar, served with various sauces, shallot vinaigrette and baguette for EUR 25 per person.

Radisson Blu Palais Hotel, Parkring 16, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 515 17 0, fax +43 (0)1 512 22 16

E-mail: guest.vienna@radissonblu.com, www.radissonblu.com/palaishotel-vienna

A 6-course gala dinner awaits you on 31 December in the pink and golden banquet hall of the Radisson Blu Palais Hotel on the Ring Strasse, at a price of EUR. Or you can enjoy a New Year's Eve gala buffet in the banquet hall for EUR 199. A live band will accompany you throughout the evening. From 10:30 p.m. onward, guests can enter the Blue Salon for an "after-opera" menu (EUR 60). You can start the new year with a New Year's brunch on January 1 from 10:30 a.m. in the bel étage while watching a live transmission of the Vienna Philharmonic orchestra's New Year's Day concert (price: EUR 65, exkl. beverages).

Steigenberger Hotel Herrenhof, 1., Herrengasse 10, tel. +43 1 53404-920, fax +43 1 534 04-888

E-mail: herrenhof-wien@steigenberger.at, www.steigenberger.com/wien

Let the corks pop on New Year's Eve in Restaurant Herrenhof. Starting at 6.00 pm on the "Night of Nights", we serve up a culinary firecracker in the form of a 7-course menu. For lovers of meatless cuisine, a vegetarian New Year's Eve menu of the very finest quality is offered. Price: EUR 149 per person, including selected wines and water.

Kick off 2012 at the New Year's brunch with a sumptuous buffet and live broadcast of the legendary New Year's Day concert by the Vienna Philharmonic. We invite you to enjoy the unique atmosphere in Restaurant Herrenhof from 11.30 am. Price: EUR 45 per person, including hot drinks, water and juices.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Concerts

The world-famous New Year's Day concert is not the only notable attraction in Vienna at the start of 2011. The music capital of the world has a wealth of other performances by renowned orchestras on offer.

A selection of concerts is given below. The full program can be found on our event database at **WWW.VIENNA.INFO**.

Musikverein

Karlsplatz 6 / Bösendorfer Strasse 12, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 505 81 90, fax +43 (0)1 505 81 90 94, www.musikverein.at

Vienna Philharmonic, conductor: Mariss Jansons

New Year's Day concert (11:15 a.m. on January 1); **New Year's Eve concert** (7:30 p.m. on December 31); public rehearsal of New Year's Day concert (11 a.m. on December 30): all sold out.

Applications for tickets to these three concerts are only accepted by the Vienna Philharmonic a year in advance. Tickets orders can only be placed at the Vienna Philharmonic's website (www.wienerphilharmoniker.at), between January 2 and January 23 of every year for the following end of year concerts. The Musikverein itself does not sell tickets for the New Year's concerts.

Vienna Konzerthaus

Lothringer Strasse 20, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 242 002, fax +43 (0)1 242 00 110, e-mail: ticket@konzerthaus.at, www.konzerthaus.at

Vienna Symphony Orchestra: Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, conductor: Philippe Jordan December 31 at 7 p.m. and January 1 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall; tickets from EUR 37 to EUR 128.

Strauss Festival Orchestra Vienna: "Ohne Sorgen", conducted by Willy Büchler. January 1 at 11 a.m. in the Great Hall; tickets from EUR 37 to EUR 104

The Great Willi Resetarits New Year's Eve show, The Ultimate New Year's Slide: with musical comedians Alexej Igudesman & Hyjung-ki Joo, star violinist Julian Rachlin, moderator: Sir Roger Moore, December 31 at 10:30 p.m. in the Great Hall; prices: EUR 31 to 90.

Theater an der Wien

Linke Wienzeile 6, A-1060 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 588 85, www.theater-wien.at

On New Year's Eve, Theater an der Wien shows the opera "L'Orfeo" by Claudio Monteverdi. L'Orfeo was the first dramatic work by Claudio Monteverdi. His composition was the first opera ever to make it into the history books and has lost none of its appeal after 400 years. The story of the mythical singer Orfeo (Orpheus) and the tragic loss of his beloved Euridice finds its emotional perfection in Monteverdi's music. December 31, 8 p.m., prices: EUR 18 to 135.

Liechtenstein Museum

Fürstengasse 1, A-1090 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 319 57 67 0, fax +43 (0)1 319 57 67-20, e-mail: office@liechtensteinmuseum.at, www.liechtensteinmuseum.at

Celebrate the start of the year in the incomparable ambience of the Gartenpalais Liechtenstein with melodies by Johann Strauß, Franz Lehár and Robert Stolz. The Vienna Salon Soloists, under the direction of Martin Breinschmid, invite you on a musical journey through the golden and silver era of Viennese operetta. As the special New Year's guest, the ensemble has invited soprano Judith Halasz, who will perform some of the great hits of the operetta repertoire with Viennese charm. January 1 at 11 a.m. in the Herkules Hall.

Prices for concert incl. sparkling wine in the interval and admission to the galleries:

Category I: EUR 73 (rows 1 to 6), Category II: EUR 62 (from row 7)

University Church / Jesuit Church

Ignaz-Seipel Platz 1, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)664 336 64 64, e-mail: bestellung@chorvereinigung-augustin.at, www.chorvereinigung-augustin.at

St. Augustin Choir and Orchestra:

January 1: Mozart's "Spatzenmesse"

January 6: Anton Diabelli's "Pastoral Mass" in F major

Commences: 10:30 a.m.

St. Stephen's Cathedral

Stephansplatz, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 515 52-3193, e-mail: dommusik@stephanskirche.at, www.dommusik-wien.at

Organ concert at the end of the end: December 30, 8:30 p.m.

Reflection at the end of the year: Festive music for soloists, choir and orchestra, December 31, 4:30 p.m.

Vienna Hofburg Orchestra at Hofburg Palace

Heldenplatz / Hofburg, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 587 25 52
konzerte@hofburgorchester.at, www.hofburgorchester.at

New Year's Eve concert

The program includes the most well-known melodies from waltz and operetta music by Johann Strauss, Emmerich Kálmán and Franz Lehár as well as arias and duets from the operas of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

The orchestra is made up of 52 musicians and 6 international soloist singers from all the great Viennese orchestral associations, and is conducted by Gert Hofbauer. Highlights from "The Marriage of Figaro", "The Magic Flute" and operettas such as "Die Fledermaus" and "The Merry Widow" will make New Year's Eve an unforgettable experience.

Ticket prices: EUR 70 to EUR 110

December 31, 6:30 p.m.

New Year's Day concert

Every year on January 1, the Vienna Hofburg Orchestra celebrates the New Year with its audience in the Festsaal decorated with flowers and in the Redoutensaal of Hofburg Palace. An orchestra of 52 musicians and 6 international soloist singers conducted by Gert Hofbauer will perform the most popular waltz and operetta compositions by Johann Strauss, Emmerich Kálmán and Franz Lehár as well as arias and duets from the operas of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Enjoy New Year's Day with melodies from the "Fledermaus Overture", "The Blue Danube", the "Radetzky March", "The Magic Flute" and "The Merry Widow".

January 1 at 11 a.m.: EUR 120 to EUR 170

January 1 at 4 p.m.: EUR 120 to EUR 170

January 1 at 7:30 p.m.: EUR 80 to EUR 120

Ball & concert packages:

Admission to the Imperial Ball in Hofburg Palace on December 31 at 10:00 p.m. and to the New Year's Day concert in Hofburg Palace on January 1 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket to the ball with a table in the winter garden and Category I concert ticket: EUR 310. Ticket to the ball without a table, and Category II concert ticket: EUR 210.

Regular concerts focusing on Strauss and Mozart that also take place at New Year:

Schönbrunn Palace Orchestra in the Orangery at Schönbrunn Palace

Schönbrunner Schlosstrasse 47, A-1130 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 811130, office@imagevienna.com, www.imagevienna.com,

December 31 at 7 p.m., Schönbrunn Palace Orchestra, Vienna.

Ticket prices: VIP category – EUR 96; Cat. A – EUR 76; Cat. B – EUR 65; Cat. C – EUR 50.

Concerts on January 1 at 4 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Schönbrunn Palace Orchestra, Vienna.

Ticket prices: VIP category – EUR 96; Cat. A – EUR 76; Cat. B – EUR 65; Cat. C – EUR 50.

Salon Orchester Old Vienna at the Vienna Kursalon

Johannesgasse 33, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 512 57 90, information: tel. +43 (0)1 512 57 91, fax +43 (0)1 512 57 91, e-mail: sound@soundofvienna.at, www.soundofvienna.at

The “Salonorchester Alt Wien” presents an evening filled with Viennese charm and lively waltz melodies, polkas, arias and duets as well as operetta music and piano concertos accompanied by outstanding opera singers and enchanting ballet soloists.

Concert 1 at 8:15 p.m., concert 2 at 10:30 p.m., followed by a waltz workshop, a fireworks display, dance music and New Year’s Eve party. Prices for the various categories range from EUR 50 to EUR 116.

Wiener Residenzorchester (Vienna Residence Orchestra) at Palais Auersperg

Auerspergstraße 1, A-1080 Vienna, tel. +43 (0)1 817 21 78, Fax: +43 (0)1 813 28 65, www.residenzorchester.at, konzert@residenzorchester.at

The Vienna Residence Orchestra plays authentic Viennese music, Viennese classics, Viennese waltzes, Mozart, Strauss and Viennese operetta.

December 31, 8:15 p.m., VIP tickets: EUR 54, Category A: EUR 46, Category B: EUR 39

Concert in Mozarthaus

Singerstraße 7, A-1010 Vienna, tel. +43 (0)1 911 90 77, Fax: +43 (0)1 512 56 20, www.mozarthaus.at, konzerte@mozarthaus.at

The Sala Terrena in the Mozarthaus is an atmospheric play in which to be enchanted by a virtuoso string quartet. In one of the oldest concert halls in Vienna, where Mozart himself once played, the Ensemble Kammermusik plays the most famous compositions of Viennese classical music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Franz Schubert and Joseph Haydn.

December 31, 6:00 p.m., Category A: EUR 47, Category B: EUR 39

Music Highlights

Vienna’s varied musical offerings range from classical orchestral music in the city’s traditional concert halls to operas, operettas, musicals and jazz.

Vienna’s opera houses stage operas, operettas and musicals throughout the year, as well as over the New Year period. Highlights include Johann Strauss’ “Die Fledermaus” (which, in time-honored

tradition, will be performed both at the State Opera and the Volksoper on New Year's Eve) and well-known musicals.

Vienna State Opera

Opernring 2, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 514 44 2250, fax +43 (0)1 514 44 2969,
www.wiener-staatsoper.at

“Sleeping Beauty” ballet: Dec. 25, Dec. 28 and Jan. 3

“Die Fledermaus” operetta (Johann Strauß): Dec. 31, Jan. 1, Jan. 3 and Jan. 6

“Le Nozze di Figaro” opera (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart): Dec. 29 and Jan. 2

Volksoper

Währinger Strasse 78, A-1090 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 514 44 3670, fax +43 (0)1 514 44 3669,
www.volksoper.at

“Die lustige Witwe” operetta (Franz Lehár): Dec. 30

“Die Fledermaus” operetta (Johann Strauß): Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

Raimund Theater

Wallgasse 18, A-1060 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 588 85, fax +43 (0)1 588 30 33,
www.musicalvienna.at

The successful musical “Ich war noch niemals in New York” featuring songs by Udo Jürgens is also a highlight in the New Year period.

Ronacher

Seilerstätte 9, A-1010 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 588 85, fax +43 (0)1 588 30 33,
www.musicalvienna.at

The hit musical based on the cult film with Whoopi Goldberg will captivate audiences at the Ronacher in Vienna on New Year's Eve.

The **jazz scene** is also offering a packed program at New Year's Eve with live performances by musicians from Austria and abroad. Delight in great jazz sounds at Porgy & Bess (www.porgy.at) or Jazzland (www.jazzland.at).

For further program details, visit the Vienna Tourist Board event database at **WWW.VIENNA.INFO**

Exhibitions

The following is just a small selection of upcoming exhibitions. For information on other exhibitions in Vienna, visit our event database at **WWW.VIENNA.INFO**.

René Magritte. Das Lustprinzip until January 26, 2012, at the Albertina

Albertinaplatz 1, A-1010 Vienna, www.albertina.at

Open daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Wed. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., December 31 and January 1, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Winter Fairytale: Winter as presented in European art from Bruegel to Beuys until January 8, 2012, at the Kunsthistorisches Museum (Museum of Fine Arts)

Maria-Theresien Platz, A-1010 Vienna, www.khm.at

Open daily except Mon., 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Thu. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., December 31: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., January 1: 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Gustav Klimt and Josef Hoffmann. Pioneers of the Modern until January 4, 2012, in the Lower Belvedere

Rennweg 6, A-1030, www.belvedere.at

Open daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Wed. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., December 31 and January 1: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Egon Schiele. Melancholy and Provocation until January 30, 2012, at the Leopold Museum

MuseumsQuartier, Museumsplatz 1, A-1070 Vienna, www.leopoldmuseum.org

Dec. 25 – Jan. 6: open daily 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Thu. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., Dec. 31: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Jan. 1: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Retrospective of the Columbian painter and sculptor Fernando Botero until January 15, 2012, at Bank Austria Kunstforum

Freyung 8, A-1010 Vienna, www.kunstforumwien.at

Open daily 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., Dec. 31: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Jan. 1: 12 noon – 7 p.m.

Vanity. Fashion photography from the F.C. Gundlach collection until February 12, 2012, at the Kunsthalle

Museumsplatz 1, A-1070 Vienna, www.kunsthallewien.at

Open daily 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Thu. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., Dec. 31: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Jan. 1: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Museum of Wishes until January 8, 2012, at the mumok – Museum for Modern Art

Museumsplatz 1, A-1070 Vienna, www.mumok.at

Mon. 2 p.m. – 7 p.m., Tue.-Sun. 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Thu. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., Dec. 31: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Jan. 1: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Henri Cartier-Bresson, India-America-Russia until February 26, 2012, at the KunstHausWien

Untere Weißgerberstrasse 13, A-1030 Vienna, www.kunsthauswien.com

Open daily 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., December 31: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., January 1: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

The opening hours of most Viennese museums for the New Year period are available online at **WWW.VIENNA.INFO**.

The Art of Ringing In the New Year ...

... on the Giant Ferris Wheel

A popular saying goes: "If you've never been on the Giant Ferris Wheel, you've never really been to Vienna". Take a spin on Vienna's Giant Ferris Wheel and await the New Year in a romantic gondola high above the city's rooftops. On December 31, this Viennese landmark will be running from 10 a.m. until 2 a.m., and on January 1 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Information: Wiener Riesenrad, Prater 90, A-1020 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 729 54 30, www.wienerriesenrad.com

... above the clouds

Celebrate New Year's Eve at 2,000 meters above Vienna ...

Soar into the New Year high above the city with a sightseeing flight in a private jet. On December 31 at 10 p.m., a Cadillac luxury limousine of your choice will collect you and your companions for the trip to the awaiting private jet at Vienna International Airport. Your crew and a champagne buffet prepared by Do&Co await you on board. At an altitude of 2,000 meters, you can enjoy spectacular views of St. Stephan's Cathedral, the Giant Ferris Wheel and Vienna's traditional New Year's Eve fireworks, before returning to the airport's General Aviation Center at 12:30 a.m., where your driver will be waiting to pick you up. EUR 800 per person (including all services, excluding deicing deposit as required).

Information and reservations: www.ccl.at or tel. +43 (0)1 231 00 35

... with a view from the Danube Tower

Spend New Year's Eve at the Danube Tower with a view of Vienna's sea of lights. A limousine collects you from a place of your choice in Vienna and environs at 9:30 p.m. In the limousine, get ready for the night ahead with champagne. Drive along the Ringstraße to the 252 meter-tall Danube Tower. In the Danube Tower restaurant, enjoy a multi-course buffet while artists provide the entertainment. From your reserved table, enjoy the view of St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Giant Ferris Wheel, Danube Island and the Reichsbrücke, and at midnight the fireworks that light up the city of Vienna at your feet. After a glass of champagne to welcome the new year, the evening continues with a swing and humor with dance and music. At 3 a.m., the limousine takes you home. EUR 970 for 2 people, EUR 202 for each additional person, incl. elevator ride up the Danube Tower, multi-course buffet, drinks and entertainment program.

Information and reservation: www.ccl.at or tel. +43 (0)1 231 00 35

... aboard a luxury train

Experience the arrival of the New Year aboard the Majestic Emperor Train de Luxe, a faithful reconstruction of Emperor Franz Joseph's imperial train. The New Year's Express will take you through and around Vienna into the New Year – with a gala dinner of several courses in evening attire and the sounds of lively music in the piano bar. Shortly before midnight, the train stops on a

bridge over the Danube to offer the best view of the magnificent fireworks above Vienna. Welcome the New Year with the Blue Danube Waltz in the middle of the Danube. Event starts at 7:45 p.m. on December 31 at Vienna's Franz-Josefs-Bahnhof station. Train departs at 8:15 p.m., returns to Franz-Josefs-Bahnhof station at approx. 2:45 a.m. Price: EUR 285.

Reservations: Majestic Emperor Train de Luxe Waggon Charter GesmbH, Opernring 4/staircase 1/Top 8, tel. +43 (0)1 513 28 81, e-mail: gorieck@imperialtrain.com, www.imperialtrain.com or through Travel Europe Reiseveranstaltungs GmbH, Unterndorf 37a, 6135 Stans; tel. +43 (0)5242 6900 4827, e-mail: madlin.scharmer@traveleurope.cc, www.traveleurope.cc

... on the Blue Danube

Spend New Year's Eve aboard a **DDSG Blue Danube ship** – MS Admiral Tegetthoff or MS Prinz Eugen – where you can enjoy a sumptuous gala buffet, live music, entertainment and a New Year's Day snack. Enjoy a magnificent view of the Viennese fireworks.

On December 31, boarding at 7 p.m. at Reichsbrücke in Vienna, ship departs at 8 p.m., returns to Reichsbrücke at 12:30 a.m., event ends at around 3 a.m. Price: EUR 155 per person, incl. river cruise on the Danube, sparkling wine reception, gala buffet, New Year's snack and live music.

Reservations: DDSG Blue Danube Schiffahrt, Handelskai 265, A-1020 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 588 80 0, e-mail: info@ddsg-blue-danube.at, www.ddsg-blue-danube.at

The **Twin City Liner**, a luxurious high-speed catamaran which operates between Vienna and Bratislava, extends an invitation to its "New Year's Eve in Bratislava" trip. Launch into the New Year on the New Year's Eve Trail in Bratislava.

Departure from Vienna (Schwedenplatz) at 7 p.m. on December 31, arrival in Bratislava at 8:15 p.m., then free time in Bratislava to do as you please. Departure from Bratislava at 1:30 a.m. on January 1, arrival in Vienna (Schwedenplatz) at 3:00 a.m. Price: EUR 99 per person for round trip including a glass of sparkling wine and open sandwiches on the journey there and goulash soup on the return voyage. Tickets direct from the mooring point of the Twin City Liner at Schwedenplatz, DDSG Blue Danube Schiffahrt, Handelskai 265, A-1020 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 588 80 0, e-mail: info@ddsg-blue-danube.at, www.twincityliner.com

... at one with nature

Enjoy New Year's Eve at Am Himmel, a green hillside on Vienna's outskirts, overlooking the city's New Year's Eve fireworks and waltzing in the resonant setting of the "Circle of the Trees of Life". Tickets for the New Year's Eve buffet in the Oktogon are available directly at the restaurant or can be ordered by e-mail from himmel@himmel.at.

Café Restaurant Oktogon Am Himmel, corner of Höhenstrasse / Himmelstrasse, A-1190 Vienna. December 31, in the evening. Information: tel. +43 (0)1 406 59 38 and +43 (0)1 328 89 36 (Oktogon), www.himmel.at

... under the palms

An exclusive New Year's Eve dinner provides culinary pleasures in the Palm House in the gardens of the Imperial Palace from 7.00 pm. Waltzes are on the program at midnight: on the terrace with a wonderful view of the city center fireworks. This is followed by the New Year's Eve party with DJ. EUR 138 per person, including a glass of champagne.

Palmenhaus, 1., Burggarten, 31 December, from 7.00 pm, tel. +43 1 533 10 33, fax +43 1 533 10 33-10, e-mail: office@palmenhaus.at, www.palmenhaus.at

... at Aux Gazelles

The opportunity to visit the Turkish bath Hammam, with body scrub and soap foam massage, peppermint tea, and a glass of orange blossom champagne: EUR 65 per person (3 p.m. to 8 p.m.).

From 8 p.m., have the New Year's Eve dinner "Marrakesh de Luxe" with select delicacies from Vienna to Morocco and a glass of champagne to ring in the New Year: EUR 95 per person.

DJs, live music, belly dancing until the early hours of the morning included. Just Dance from 10 p.m. (EUR 25 per person).

Aux Gazelles, Rahlgasse 5, A-1060 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 585 66 45, e-mail: office@auxgazelles.at, www.auxgazelles.at

... at a Burlesque party

A must for fans of Burlesque: The dress code is evening dress of the 1920s to 1950s. From the Charleston dress to the petticoat, everything is permitted here. Dance to Swing and Rock'n'Roll with influences of electronic music. The highpoint is the performance by Burlesque artists. Dinner and entertainment are offered from 8 p.m. (EUR 90 per person. The party begins at 10:30 p.m. (advance sales: EUR 20, on the door: EUR 25).

Residenz Zögernitz, Döblinger Hauptstraße 76-78, A-1190 Vienna, www.cirque-rouge.com, www.zoegernitz.com

... at the planetarium

An astronomical way to greet the New Year: as the year draws to a close, the Urania Planetarium offers a New Year's evening between heaven and earth – right in the heart of Vienna. Experience one of the best panoramas of the city and the New Year's Eve fireworks over the roofs of Vienna and a very special astronomical preview of 2012: Reception and welcome drink, "What will the New Year, the future bring?" with an astronomical forecast for 2012, New Year's party on the roof terrace with panoramic view of Vienna, music, waltzing, sparkling wine and snacks, special view of the fireworks and "Field Trip to the Moon". 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., admission: EUR 45.

Urania Sternwarte, Urania-Straße 1, A-1010 Vienna, tel. +43 (0)1 729 54 94, reservations at www.planetarium-wien.at

... at Palazzo

The new Palazzo show, "Dinner Furioso" surprises with singing waiters and new culinary delicacies from star celebrity chef Reinhard Gere. The singing waiters serve masterpieces of musical history – from classical to pop, from soul to rock – to accompany the works of art from the kitchen.

The **grand New Year's Eve gala** event offers an oyster buffet and sparkling wine reception, a six-course menu, a big firework display in front of the mirror palace and a baroque disco with dancing until the early morning, followed by a "hangover-cure" breakfast. Prices: EUR 179 for circle, EUR 189 for balcony/box, EUR 199 for arena.

Spiegelpalast Wien, Messeturm 2, Ausstellungsstrasse / Vorgartenstrasse, A-1020 Vienna. Tickets: tel. +43 (0)800 01 77 66, fax +43 (0)1 581 29 00 40, e-mail: ticket@palazzo.org, www.palazzo.org

... on the Badeschiff (pool boat)

A 6-course meal will be served at the **restaurant Holy Moly** on the Badeschiff (EUR 75 per person). DJ Chris Duller will be manning the turntables starting at 10:30 p.m. In **Fest.Land.Bar**, there will be fondue chinoise for EUR 28 starting at 9 p.m. On the upper deck, the Blue Danube Waltz will be playing and there will be sparkling wine, champagne and an amazing view of the city fireworks. The party starts in the cargo hold at 10 p.m.: Indie, alternative and pop are on the agenda with "Indie Bassed".

Badeschiff, 1., Donaukanallände between Urania and Schwedenplatz, reservations for the restaurant Holy Moly at tel. +43 699 151 307 50, e-mail: reservierung@badeschiff.at, reservations for Fest.Land.Bar at tel. +43 699 100 265 75, e-mail: hesse@badeschiff.at

... at Schlossquadrat

On New Year's Eve, the restaurant Silberwirt will be dishing up a special New Year's dinner from 5 p.m. until 11 p.m. Meanwhile, Café Cuadro, also located in the Schlossquadrat ensemble, will be serving sumptuous breakfast variations on New Year's Day to reflect the occasion.

Silberwirt, Schlossgasse 21, A-1050 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 544 49 07.

Café Cuadro, Am Margaretenplatz, A-1050; tel. +43 (0)1 544 75 50, www.schlossquadr.at

... at lutz

Celebrate the last day of the year with cocktails, champagne, international wines and an exclusive New Year's Eve buffet starting at 7:30 pm at the bar-lounge lutz – die bar. In the cellar, the hot music club lutz – der club opens its doors at 10 pm. DJs and live acts will ensure an exciting night at the club.

Lutz – die bar|lutz – der club, Mariahilfer Strasse 3, A-1060 Vienna; www.lutz-bar.at, www.lutz-club.at

Reservations for lutz – die bar: bar@lutz-bar.at

Reservations for lutz – der club: lutz@vip-service.at

... on a bus tour

Ring out the old year in style on a bus tour to Vienna's wine village of Grinzing. Enjoy a full-course "Grinzing Dinner" at a traditional Viennese wine tavern ("heuriger") and traditional heuriger music.

December 31 at 8:30 p.m. (pick-up from hotel around 30 – 45 minutes beforehand).

Price: EUR 95.

Reservations: Vienna Sightseeing Tours, Weyringergasse 28A–30, A-1040 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 712 46 83 0, fax +43 (0)1 714 11 41, e-mail: office@viennasightseeingtours.com, www.viennasightseeing.at

... out on the young Vienna scene

The younger crowd in Vienna will once again be welcoming in the New Year at parties and club events. Look out for "in" venues like Pratersauna, Fluc, U4, B72, Praterdome, Passage or the Volksgarten Club Disco. And if you are looking for a New Year's concert of a different kind, then go to Flex, where the best DJs in Vienna will be spinning into the New Year.

To find out more, look up "Clubs & Parties" in the Vienna Tourist Board event database at

WWW.VIENNA.INFO.

... on the New Year's Eve run

The 5.3 km New Year's Eve run takes you round the historic city center, passing sights such as the Hofburg Palace, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Natural History, the Austrian Parliament, City Hall, the Burgtheater and the University of Vienna. Now in its 35th year, the race has become something of a modern-day tradition. The starting pistol will be fired in front of Ringstrassengalerien at 11 a.m. on December 31.

Information: LCC Wien; tel. +43 (0)1 720 28 00 20 or +43 (0)699 1 9000 444, fax +43 (0)1 720 28 00 28, e-mail: lcc.wien@speed.at, www.lcc-wien.at

... at the New Year's market in front of Schönbrunn Palace

Handicrafts from Austria, good luck charms for the New Year, culinary treats, punch and mulled wine also await guests at the New Year's market in front of the atmospheric Schönbrunn Palace on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

December 28 to January 1. Ehrenhof in front of Schönbrunn Palace, A-1130 Vienna, daily from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., www.weihnachtsmarkt.co.at

... on a city walk with a Vienna tour guide

Simply show up at the meeting point and come along for only EUR 14 (EUR 12 for Vienna Card holders). Guided tours last about one-and-a-half to two hours. The wide range of tours includes walks through the old city center, to the Hofburg Palace, to Viennese art nouveau buildings, and on the trail of the artist-architect Friedensreich Hundertwasser or high-class lady of the night, Josephine Mutzenbacher. Pick your tour! The detailed program is also posted at www.wienguide.at

... in the House of Music

Discover the House of Music on the New Year's Eve trail. You can conduct the Blue Danube waltz or experience highlights of the New Year's Day concert by the Vienna Philharmonic on the big screen. Free admission from 2 p.m.

House of Music, Seilerstätte 30, A-1010 Vienna, Tel. +43 1 513 48 50, www.hdm.at

Travel throughout the Night at New Year's with the Vienna Card

Ride the Vienna subway, streetcar and bus lines with the handy **Vienna Card**, valid throughout New Year's Night on all public transportation services in Vienna. Costing only **EUR 18.50**, this practical rover and discount ticket entitles holders to 72 hours of unlimited travel on the city's subway, bus, and streetcar network, as well as some 210 discounts at tourist attractions, museums, concerts, cafés, restaurants, stores and wine taverns.

The card is available at hotels, the **Tourist Information Office** (Albertinaplatz / corner of Maysedergasse, first Viennese district, daily 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.), and Wiener Linien sales counters, and by credit card (tel. +43 (0)1 798 44 00 148).

Tourist trade distribution: Global Refund Austria GmbH, Zetschegasse 17, 1230 Vienna; tel. +43 (0)1 798 44 00 148, fax +43 (0)1 798 40 44, e-mail: viennacard@at.globalrefund.com