

Travel with The Met

May 12–22, 2017

Treasures of the Austro-Hungarian Empire:
Budapest, Prague & Vienna
With Nancy Wu

THE
MET



Treasures of the Austro-Hungarian Empire: Budapest, Prague & Vienna

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Budapest. Prague. Vienna. These glittering capitals formed the heart of the dazzling Austro-Hungarian Empire. Today I invite you to join me on an unforgettable journey to Central Europe's greatest centers of art, culture, and music. Encounter delightful architecture that ranges from Gothic to Baroque, from Vienna's unique Ringstrasse style to Art Deco and Art Nouveau. See magnificent art collections assembled by generations of imperial and aristocratic connoisseurs, and experience some of the glorious music that was the soul of the Empire.

We have arranged some very special concerts throughout the program, including a performance of Mozart at Prague's historic Estates Theatre and a private recital at the home of one of Vienna's leading pianists. We've also prepared other exclusive events, including a meeting with the director of Prague's Jewish Museum, representing a thousand-year cultural heritage; a private tour of the Hofburg Palace's spectacular Treasury, led by the director; and a specially arranged lunch in the palace of the Lobkowitz family.

Your accommodations throughout this journey are fit for an emperor: the luxurious Four Seasons Gresham Palace Budapest, built in the Art Deco style; the five-star Mandarin Oriental Prague, in a medieval neighborhood at the foot of the hill of Prague Castle; and the deluxe Hotel Bristol Vienna, located next to the Vienna State Opera.

This is a one-of-a-kind itinerary with a host of exclusive events and special features—all designed for you. Come along and explore the cities that were the historic and cultural center of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Sincerely,
Nancy Wu
Educator, The Cloisters



Traveling with you

Nancy Wu

As Museum Educator at The Cloisters, Nancy Wu oversees gallery programs, internships, concert series, and many other projects. She has recently published an essay chronicling the history of presenting medieval drama at The Met Cloisters. Dr. Wu received her Ph.D. from Columbia University, with a focus on medieval architecture. She has published extensively on Reims Cathedral, the subject of her dissertation, and served on the board of the Medieval Academy of America and the International Center of Medieval Art. Dr. Wu has lectured widely on medieval architecture and participated in symposia, colloquia, and roundtables at several distinguished institutions.

Trip Highlights

- Learn from curators on guided tours of world-renowned museums
- Enjoy a medley of arias at the Hungarian State Opera House
- Visit the Vienna home of a renowned pianist for a private performance and dinner
- View the crown jewels at Vienna's Hofburg Palace, on a tour with the director of the Treasury
- Discover Prague's thousand-year Jewish heritage, and meet the director of its Jewish Museum
- Attend a performance of Mozart at the Estates Theatre in Prague, where *Don Giovanni* premiered
- Savor local vintages during a tasting at Austria's oldest wine estate



Matthias Church, Budapest, photo by KamrenB Photography



Photos clockwise from top right: *Cellini Salt Cellar* sculpture, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, photo by Bob Fosbury; Town Hall astronomical clock, Prague, photo by Stephenk1977; trip map; Four Seasons Gresham Palace Budapest; Hungarian Opera House; Budapest Central Market Hall, photo by Dennis Jarvis. Front cover: *View of St. Charles Church and the Polytechnic Institute in Vienna, 1831*. Rudolf von Alt (Austrian, Vienna 1812–1905 Vienna). Graphite, watercolor, gouache, gum arabic. Black framing line in watercolor. The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Purchase, Walter and Leonore Annenberg Acquisitions Endowment and Harry G. Sperling Funds, 2010. (2010.441). Back cover: *Belvedere Palace, Vienna*, photo by Jonathan Reid.

Treasures of the Austro-Hungarian Empire

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Prague Castle, photo by Nico Stengert

U.S. Departure

Friday, May 12

Depart an overnight flight to Budapest.

Budapest, Hungary

Saturday, May 13

Arrive this morning in Budapest, the “Pearl of the Danube,” and transfer to the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, an Art Nouveau landmark. Depart on an introductory walking tour along UNESCO-listed Andrassy Avenue to admire architectural highlights including the wonderfully ornate Lotz Hall in the former Paris department store. We will also hear a brief opera recital at the Hungarian State Opera House, world renowned for its perfect acoustics. Gather at the hotel for welcome cocktails, followed by dinner. R, D

Budapest

Sunday, May 14

Spend the morning in Buda, on the west bank of the Danube. On Castle Hill, enjoy a curatorial tour of the Hungarian National Gallery, located in the Royal Palace, and the neo-Gothic Matthias Church, whose roof is decorated with brightly colored Zsolnay ceramic tiles. After lunch visit the Great Synagogue, also known as the Dohány Street Synagogue, noteworthy for the Romantic, Moorish, and Byzantine elements in its design. Stop at a local café, perhaps to sample some traditional rétes (Hungarian strudel). An optional visit will also be offered to the Museum of Applied Arts. B, L

Budapest / Prague, Czech Republic

Monday, May 15

Begin the morning with a visit to St. Stephen's Basilica, Hungary's largest church, completed in 1906. Continue to the Central Market Hall, a 19th-century iron-frame construction in the style of the Eiffel Tower that houses Budapest's oldest indoor market. Admire the colorful displays of spices, flowers, and food, and enjoy tastings of local specialties. Fly to Prague this afternoon and check into the five-star Mandarin Oriental, a beautifully restored former monastery in the heart of the city. Attend an evening lecture before dinner at the hotel. B, D

Prague

Tuesday, May 16

Morning visits focus on art and history in the Josefov quarter, originally settled in the

13th century by Prague's Jewish community. See the collection of Bohemian and Central European art housed in St. Agnes Convent. Explore the city's Jewish heritage on a walking tour from the Old Jewish Cemetery to the opulent, Moorish-style Spanish Synagogue and meet with the director of the Jewish Museum. After lunch walk in the medieval Old Town, where the Parade of the Apostles strikes the hour in the Town Hall's astronomical clock tower. Those who wish may continue to the Municipal House for a special visit to Smetana Hall, an architectural jewel with decorations by Alphonse Mucha and other Czech artists. Attend an evening performance of Mozart at the historic Estates Theatre, where the maestro himself conducted the world premiere of *Don Giovanni* in 1787. B, L

Prague

Wednesday, May 17

Spend the morning in Hradčany, the castle district. At Prague Castle, former residence of Bohemian royalty, see the late medieval Vladislav Hall. Continue to St. George's Basilica within the castle, and tour the Gothic Cathedral of St. Vitus that includes the St. Wenceslaus Chapel. At the Lobkowitz Palace, enjoy a private lunch before admiring the collection, a priceless assemblage of Old Masters belonging to one of Bohemia's grand aristocratic families. Its collection of original music scores handwritten by Beethoven, Mozart, and Haydn is a special highlight. B, L

Prague / Vienna, Austria

Thursday, May 18

This morning, before public hours, enter the Lapidarium, a little-known gem of a

More Travels with The Met

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Morocco: The Land of Mists & Mysteries March 24–April 5, 2017

Dutch & Flemish Landscapes Aboard *AmaPrima* April 19–27, 2017

The Majestic Rhine: Amsterdam to Basel Aboard *AmaKristina* June 9–17, 2017

For details please go to metmuseum.org/travel

museum housing a prized assortment of stone sculptures. Board an afternoon train to Vienna. On arrival, check in to the legendary Hotel Bristol. An early evening lecture is followed by dinner at a local restaurant. B, L, D

Vienna

Friday, May 19

Walk to Hofburg Palace, the former winter residence of the Habsburgs. A tour with the director of the Treasury showcases the crown jewels, including the imperial crown of the Holy Roman Empire. Continue to the nearby Kunsthistorisches Museum for an expert-led walk past its Titians, Vermeers, Rembrandts, and other masterworks. Lunch is in the museum's Cupola Hall before continuing to the Kunstammer to admire its spectacular collection. This evening we are invited for a musical performance and buffet dinner at the home of one of Vienna's leading pianists. B, L, D

Vienna

Saturday, May 20

A morning architectural tour along Vienna's Ringstrasse will introduce a parade of different building styles and include a stop at the Vienna Secession Museum. Continue to the Belvedere Palace to visit the summer residence of Prince Eugene of Savoy, which houses works by Schiele, Munch, Klimt, and other major artists. After lunch, drive along the Danube to Klosterneuburg, home to a 12th-century monastery whose famous altar is the best-preserved artwork of the Middle Ages. The abbey is also Austria's oldest wine estate

and a visit would not be complete without a tasting. The evening is at leisure in Vienna. B, L

Vienna

Sunday, May 21

Enjoy early entry to the recently re-opened St. Virgil's Chapel, discovered during the construction of Vienna's underground railway. Continue to the Museum Judenplatz in a neighborhood that was the heart of Viennese Jewish life in the Middle Ages. Conclude the morning with an in-depth visit to St. Stephen's Cathedral, a Gothic masterpiece and the city's pride and joy. This evening, gather at the hotel for farewell remarks and dinner. B, D

Vienna / U.S. Return

Monday, May 22

Transfer this morning to the airport for the return flight home.

This proposed itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Program Rate

\$8,995 per person double occupancy

\$1,845 single supplement

Rate Includes

- Nine nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); local wine/beer at lunches and dinners, bottled water, soda, and coffee/tea with all meals
- Airport/hotel group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Internal economy-class flight from Budapest to Prague
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service charges, and portage

Not included in rate

International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Accommodations

Four Seasons Gresham Palace, Budapest

Elegant Art Nouveau architecture on the Danube.

Mandarin Oriental, Prague

On the site of a former 14th-century monastery.

Hotel Bristol, Vienna

Gathering place for cultural Vienna since 1892.



Hotel Bristol, Vienna (left); Mandarin Oriental, Prague (right)

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Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Academic Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single (at a supplement of \$1,845)

I wish to share a room with _____

Form of Payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4- digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in forthcoming program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

The Metropolitan
Museum of Art

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New York, NY 10028

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