

AUSTRIA

ÖSTERREICH OR REPUBLIC ÖSTERREICH



- Czech Republic & Germany to the north, Hungary & Slovakia to the east, Slovenia & Italy to the south, Switzerland & Liechtenstein to the west
- 84,000 km², 8.6 million people
- Vienna (Constitutional Law on Neutrality 1955)
- 25 million foreign tourists

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

- Capital city of Vienna – abundant architectural monuments, cultural events, cafés & taverns called Heuriger (specially licenced local winemakers serve their recent year wines)



Bregenz



Innsbruck



Linz

NATURE

- Danube valley with vineyards such (Wachau or Dunkelsteinerwald)
- Bodensee (Lake Constance), Neusiedler See, Wolfgangsee, Grundlsee, Wörthersee
- Austrian Alps



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

- Nine cultural sites
- One transboundary with Hungary
- One with France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia & Switzerland



PREHISTORIC PILE DWELLINGS AROUND THE ALPS

- Serial property of 111 small individual sites
- **Austria 5 sites**, France (11), Germany (18), Italy (19), Slovenia (2) & Switzerland (56)
- Remains of prehistoric pile-dwelling (stilt house) settlements
- Built from around 5000 to 500 BC on the edges of lakes, rivers & wetlands
- Well-preserved & culturally rich archaeological sites (study of early agrarian societies in the region)



HISTORIC CENTRE OF THE CITY OF SALZBURG

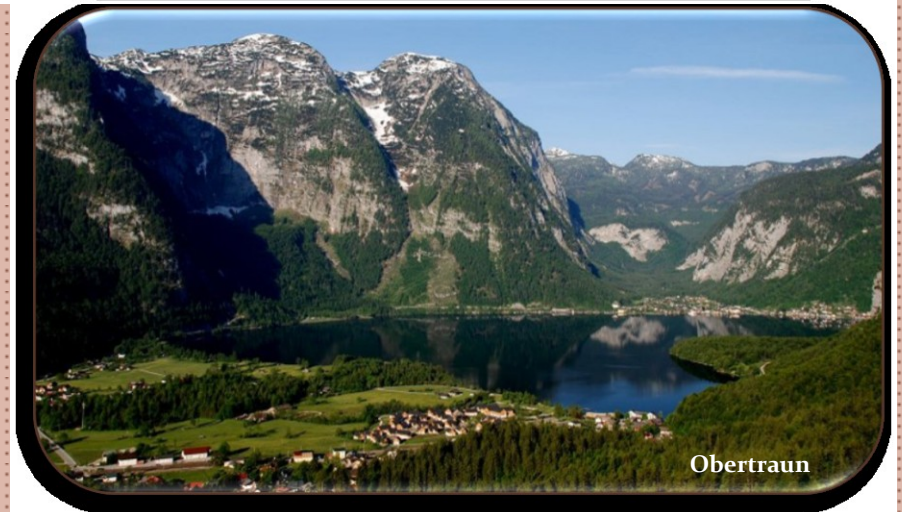


- Attractive setting & scenic Alpine backdrop, birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- City-state ruled by prince-archbishop of the Holy Roman Empire (until beginning of 19c)
- Blend of Gothic & Baroque style buildings – Cathedral (17c), Hohensalzburg Castle (one of largest in Europe, atop Festungberg), Franciscan Church (13c), St Peter's Abbey (Benedictine, 696 by Saint Rupert), Nonnberg Abbey (Benedictine, around 710), Salzburg Residenz (Prince-Archbishops)



HALLSTATT-DACHSTEIN / SALZKAMMERGUT CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

- Salzkammergut – resort area from Salzburg along Alpine foreland to Dachstein Mountains
- Towns of Hallstatt, Obertraun, Gosau, Bad Goisern & their surroundings
- Region – result of human activity since prehistoric times (2 millennium BC, salt deposits)
- Glacial lakes & mountains (Salzkammergut, Dachstein, Totes Gebirge & Upper Austrian Pre-Alps)



WACHAU CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

- 40 kilometres long valley along River Danube between Melk & Krems (settled in prehistoric times)
- Ancient monasteries (Benedictine Abbey of Melk, Göttweig Abbey), castles (Renaissance Schallaburg Castle), ruins (Aggstein Castle), towns & villages, terraced vineyards
- Dürnstein with ruin of castle (Richard the Lion-Heart imprisoned)



HISTORIC CENTRE OF VIENNA

- Roman castrum – fortified frontier city Vindobona (15 BC, on site of earlier Celtic settlement)
- Capital of Duchy of Austria (12c), resident city of Habsburg dynasty (1440), capital of Holy Roman Empire, capital of Austro-Hungarian Empire
- Ringstraße – boulevard surrounding historical town (19c – town walls pulled down, lined with public & private buildings, monuments & parks) – twin museums of Natural History & Fine Art, Vienna State Opera (Wiener Staatsoper), Imperial Court Theatre (Burgtheater), Parliament



Staatsoper

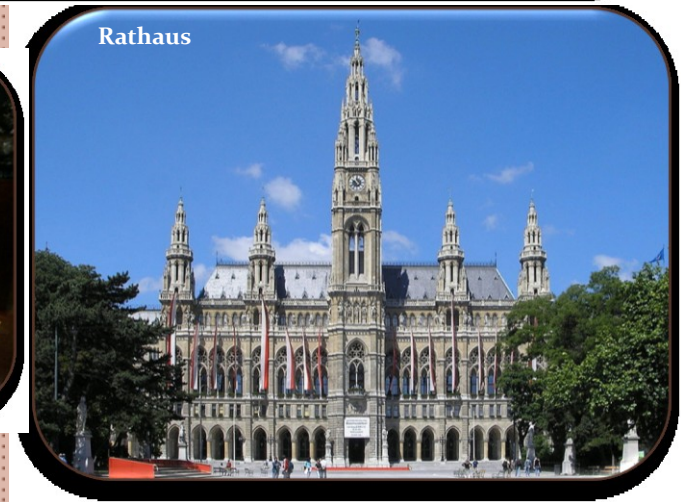
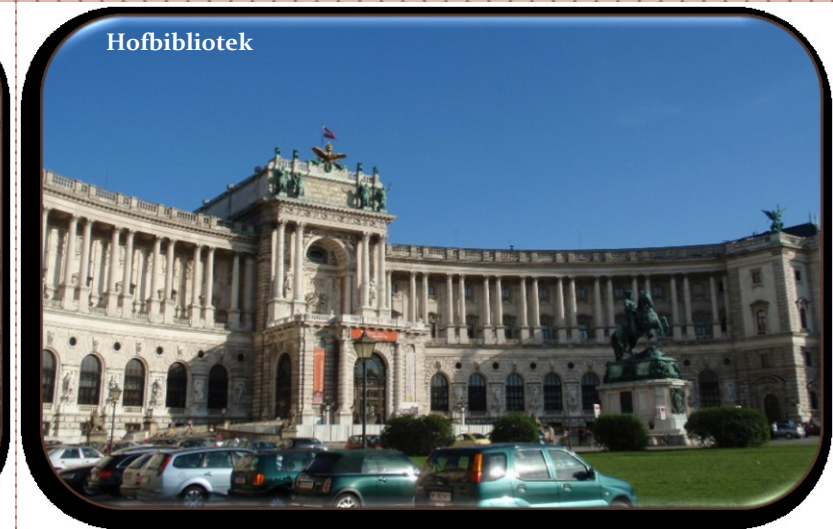


Parliament



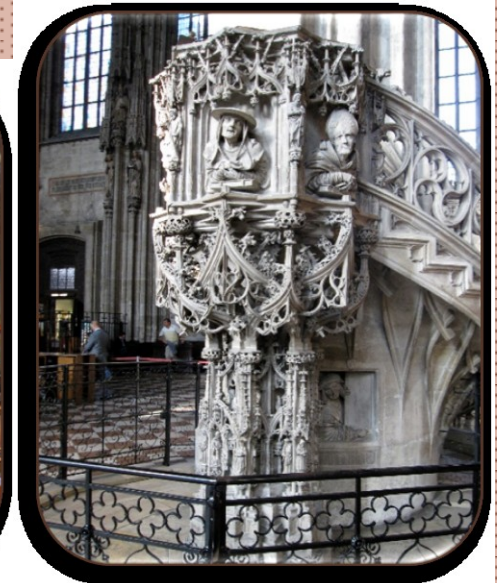
HISTORIC CENTRE OF VIENNA

- Ringstraße – Town Hall (Rathaus), Hofburg Palace (13c, imperial palace, principal winter residence of Habsburgs), Imperial Chapel (Hofkapelle/Burgkapelle), Austrian National Library (Hofbibliothek), Imperial Treasury (Schatzkammer)



HISTORIC CENTRE OF VIENNA

- Cathedral of Saint Stephen (Stephansdom) – seat of Archbishop, symbol of the city (14c)
- Church of Saint Rupert (Ruprechtskirche) – Saint Rupert of Salzburg (patron saint of salt merchants of Vienna, oldest – 8/9c), Karlskirche (18c)



PALACE AND GARDENS OF SCHÖNBRUNN

- Former imperial summer residence of Habsburg emperors (from 17c until 1918, 1,441-rooms)
- Baroque Palace (designed & built by Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach & later by Nicolaus Pacassi)
- French garden (sculptures, maze, orangery, palm house, botanical garden), English garden
- Tiergarten – imperial menagerie (1752 – oldest ZOO in the world)



FERTÖ / NEUSIEDLERSEE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

- Lake Neusiedel (Fertő in Hungarian) – second largest Endorheic lake in Central Europe (retains water & allows no outflow to external bodies of water, converges into lakes or swamps, permanent or seasonal)
- Covers 315 km² (75 on Hungarian side), no more than 1.8 m deep, surrounded by reeds (resting place for migratory birds)
- Rural architecture of villages & several 18-19c palaces



SEMMERING RAILWAY

- 1848 – 1854, 41 km of high rugged mountains (buildings designed for leisure activities along the way)
- Tunnels, viaducts & other works still fully functional as part of South Railway
- ‘First true mountain railway’ in the world (very difficult terrain & considerable altitude)



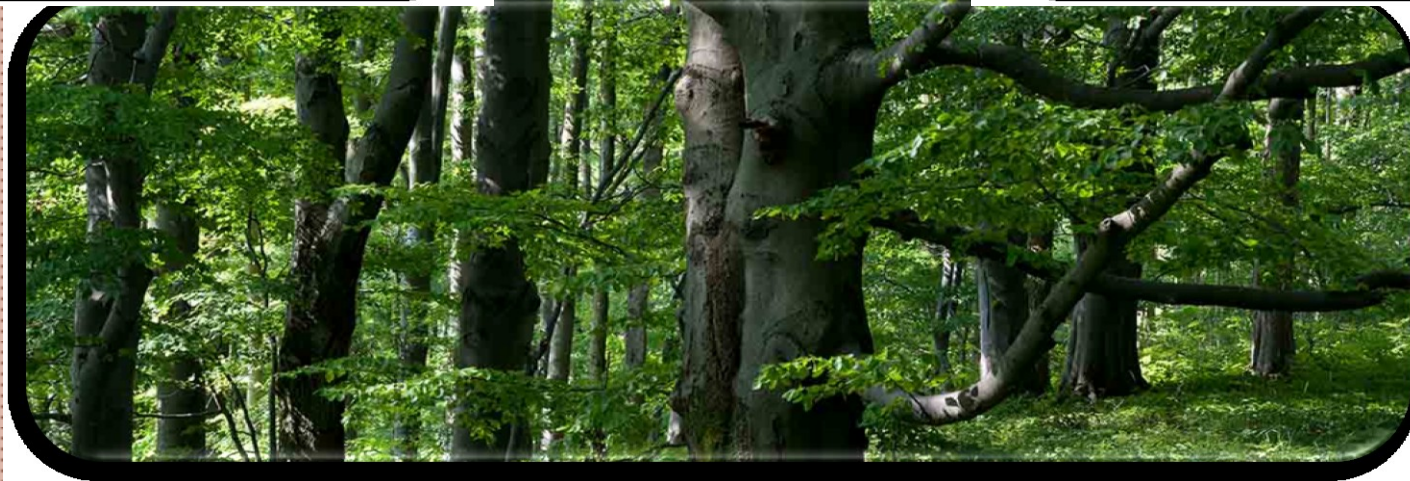
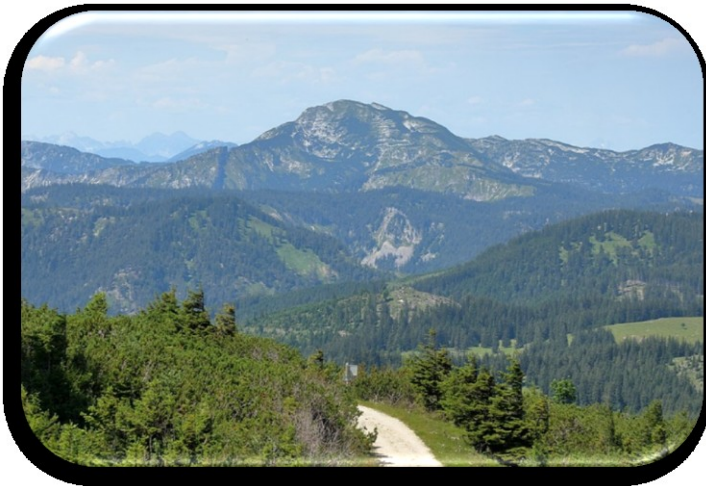
CITY OF GRAZ – HISTORIC CENTRE AND SCHLOSS EGGENBERG

- Residence of Inner Austrian line of Habsburg (14c)
- Cultural borderland between Central Europe, Italy & the Balkan → absorbed various influences
- Old Town, Castle Eggenberg (Alte Galerie, landscape park with Lapidarium of Roman stonework)



PRIMEVAL BEECH FORESTS OF THE CARPATHIANS AND THE ANCIENT BEECH FORESTS OF GERMANY

- Outstanding examples of ongoing post-glacial biological & ecological evolution of ecosystems
- Pure stands of European beech across variety of environmental conditions (all altitudinal zones from seashore up to forest line in mountains)
- Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians
- Ancient Beech Forests of Austria (Kalkalpen and Dürrenstein)



FRONTIERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE – DANUBE LIME

- 2 century AD to defend Roman Empire from the ‘barbarians’; Limes Romanus – 7,500 km
- 47 localities, most underground
- Carnutum, Mautern, Traismauer, Tulln, Zeiselmauer...



GREAT SPA TOWNS OF EUROPE

- 11 spas, 7 countries
- Baden bei Wien



**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENTION**