

American Celebration of Music in Austria, Hungary, & the Czech Republic

The "Three Capitals" Tour

Tour #6 (8 nights / 10 days)

Day 1

Depart via scheduled air service to Budapest, Hungary

Day 2

Budapest

(D)

Arrive in Budapest

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for the transfer into Budapest. Although a different language is spoken here, Hungary was for centuries a part of the Habsburg Empire and the trappings and influence of the monarchy are still here. The old and new have blended to create one of Europe's most beautiful cities. Liszt, Bartok and von Weber are among Hungary's famous musicians

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Welcome Dinner and overnight

Budapest is the modern combination of three cities: Obuda, Buda and Pest. Linked by eight bridges, these cities have retained their own distinctive characteristics, but their combination has created one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.

Day 3

Budapest

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning guided tour of Budapest to include the Parliament, Chain Bridge, Royal Castle Hill (for an incredible view of the city), St. Stephen's Cathedral, Matthias Church, Fisherman's Bastion (including entrance), and the picturesque streets of Tánctis Mihály utca, Uri utca and Fortuna utca which feature splendid examples of medieval houses and Baroque mansions

Lunch, on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Hungary

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4

Budapest / Eisenstadt / Vienna

(B,D)

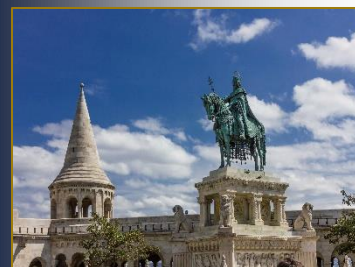
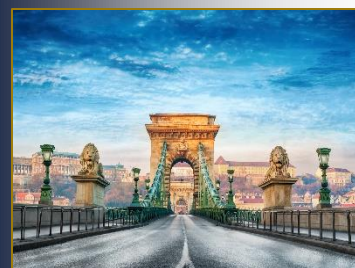
Breakfast at the hotel

Travel along the Danube to Vienna, stopping enroute in Eisenstadt. Everything in Eisenstadt reminds one of the brilliant composer Franz Joseph Haydn. Entrance is included to Esterhazy Palace with its Haydnsaal, where many of Haydn's works were premiered, and *where choirs may sing a short recital*, and also to Haydn's House, which is now a museum

Lunch, on own

Continue to Vienna, stopping at the Vienna Central Cemetery to visit the graves of Beethoven, Strauss, Brahms, Schubert and the Mozart Memorial

Evening dinner and overnight



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Vienna is still considered the music capital of the world. It is a city of refined tastes, grace, style and unmatched artistic accomplishments. For a thousand years, Vienna was the capital of the far-flung Holy Roman and Hapsburg empires. Though its people and ways have changed, Vienna has retained its imperial monuments, not as reminders of past glories, but as living symbols of its present freedom

Day 5 **Vienna** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Historical Vienna* includes the Ringstraße, Imperial Palace, State Opera, Town Hall, Burgkapelle (home of the Vienna Boys Choir), Palace Stables, Strauß Monument, and entrance to Schönbrunn Palace, built by the Hapsburgs in imitation of Versailles

Lunch, on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 6 **Vienna** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Musical Vienna* includes entrance to the Haus der Musik (House of Music), a modern interactive sound museum located in the historic city center. This tour also includes the Museum of the Vienna Philharmonic, which is part of the House of Music. The *Musical Vienna* tour concludes with a visit (entrance included) to the Beethoven Heligenstadt apartment

Lunch, on own

Possible afternoon workshop or clinic

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 7 **Vienna / Prague** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Full-day transfer by bus to Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic

Lunch, on own

Evening dinner and overnight

Prague is one of the most enchanting cities in Europe. It was under Charles IV during the 14th century that Prague briefly became the seat of the Holy Roman Empire (virtually the capital of Western Europe) and acquired its distinctive Gothic imprint. Prague escaped serious wartime damage and is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe today. Mozart claimed that no one understood him better than the citizens of Prague, and he was only one of several great masters who lived or lingered here

Day 8 **Prague** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning guided tour of Prague includes seeing the Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, the Tyn Church, the Astronomical Clock, and the Jewish Quarter. Also visit the Castle District, where entrance is included to Hradcany Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, the Old Royal Palace, the Golden Lane, and Daliborka Tower

Lunch, on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in the Czech Republic

Evening dinner and overnight



Day 9

Prague

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day tour of *Musical Prague* including entrance to the Lobkowitz Palace to view original scores and manuscripts by Beethoven, including his 4th & 5th symphonies

Lunch, on own

Afternoon at leisure

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 10

Depart for home

(B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Prague's airport for the return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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