Ring Cycle in Vienna - 2025

Vienna visit Bratislava – 12 days

Departure: June 18, 2025

Return: June 29, 2025

Presenting the Grand Wagnerian Spectacle - Vienna's Epic "Ring Cycle"

Prepare to embark on a mesmerizing journey into the heart of German opera as the Vienna Staatsoper proudly presents Richard Wagner's monumental **"Ring Cycle."** This awe-inspiring opera event promises to immerse you in the grandeur and drama of Wagner's magnum opus. Under the masterful baton of conductor Philippe Jordan, the Vienna Staatsoper orchestra will bring Wagner's legendary music to life, creating an experience that will resonate deep within your soul.

As the curtains rise, you'll find yourself amid a **Wagnerian** world where gods, heroes, and mythical creatures collide. **Andreas Schager's** powerful voice brings Siegfried and Siegmund to life, while **Anja Kampe** embodies the fierce and iconic Brünnhilde. **Iain Paterson's** commanding presence portrays both Der Wanderer and Wotan, with **Jochen Schmeckenbecher** as Alberich, **Noa Beinart** as Erda, **Michael Laurenz** as Mime, **Kwangchul Youn** as Fafner and Hunding, and **Ileana Tonca** as the Stimme des Waldvogels. **Monika Bohinec** completes the cast as Fricka.

The experience continues with **Tchaikovsky's** enchanting **"Pique Dame,"** featuring **Yusif Eyvazov** as Hermann, **Anna Netrebko** as Lisa, **Elena Zaremba** as the Gräfin, **Alexey Markov** as Tomski.

Indulge in ten luxurious nights at the prestigious **GRAND HOTEL** Vienna, offering a perfect blend of elegance and convenience in the city's heart. Enjoy gourmet dinners at Vienna's finest restaurants, including a **Gala Welcome Dinner** at the renowned **SACHER Restaurant** and an unforgettable **Farewell Gala Dinner** at the **Hotel GRAND's** beautiful restaurant.

Your adventure also includes captivating excursions. Experience a day trip to the **Vienna Woods**, visiting Heiligenkreuz Abbey, Mayerling, and Baden, with a scenic drive along the wine route and a delightful lunch in the Woods. Another highlight is the excursion to **Bratislava**, the capital of Slovakia, where you will explore the historic Old Town, Bratislava Castle, St. Martin's Cathedral, and the charming Main Square, with lunch at a fine restaurant.

Be prepared to be swept away by the grandeur, emotion, and artistry that awaits you in Vienna's epic "**Ring Cycle.**" This immersive opera tour will resonate with your passion for music and leave you with memories to cherish for a lifetime.

Opera Performances

In Vienna:

All Opera performances will be at the Vienna State Opera

Ring Cycle Dates

June 20 – Das Rheingold by Wagner

June 22 – Die Walküre by wagner

June 25 - Siegfried by Wagner

June 28 – Gotterdammerung by Wagner

Other Performences Dates

June 21 – Konzerthaus - Sonya Yoncheva

June 26 - Konzerthaus - The Concert of Nations

June 24 – Pique Dame by Tchaikovsky with Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov

Wednesday, June 18 (D)*. DEPART FOR VIENNA

Depart this evening aboard any airline of your choice to Vienna, Austria. Enjoy dinner and a light breakfast on the plane.

Thursday, June 19 (B,D). VIENNA

Arrival at Vienna International Airport is independent. Take a taxi to the centrally located deluxe **GRAND HOTEL**, where we will stay for ten nights. Enjoy a cocktail and Gala Welcome Dinner at the famous **Sacher Restaurant**.

Friday, June 20 (B). VIENNA

Morning sightseeing in this cultural capital of Europe. Among the sights will be the Hofburg, the former Imperial Palace, and St. Stephen's Cathedral. Walk through the charming courtyards and

see some of the homes of famous composers such as Beethoven and Mozart. This evening, we will see the opera **Das Rheingold** by Wagner at the **Vienna Staatsoper**.

VIENNA:

Since the Romans selected the site of a Celtic settlement for the location of one of its most important Central European forts, Vindobona, the city that grew up in the Vienna Basin of the Danube, has played a vital role in European history. Austria grew up around the city and developed into a mighty empire. Still, the Viennese character formed during the long history of the country is a rich amalgam of the blending of cultures that have made Vienna what it is today. a city whose people devote themselves to the enjoyment of the good life - music, art, literature, theatre, architecture, education, food, and drink - all are part of the gemütlichkeit of Vienna. Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven, the Strausses (all of them), Gluck, Mahler, Brahms, Liszt, Haydn, Weber, and Schonberg - in the music world alone, these are some of the outstanding names which are a part of the soul of Vienna.

Saturday, June 21 (B). VIENNA

Today, we will embark on a comprehensive bus tour of Vienna. The tour will cover the Ring Road, showcasing the grandeur of the State Opera House, the majestic Parliament, and the City Hall. We will stroll through the Naschmarkt, Vienna's most famous market, and visit the MuseumsQuartier, a vibrant cultural district. The tour will also include stops at the Prater to see the iconic Ferris wheel, the Danube, the U.N. Building and Danube City, the historic Old Danube area, and the picturesque Belvedere Palace. We will also visit the Hundertwasserhaus, a unique residential building designed by the artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser. This evening, we will enjoy a **Concert** by the renowned soprano **Sonya Yoncheva**.

Sunday, June 22 (B,D). VIENNA

Spend the morning exploring the Fine Arts Museum, known for its extensive collection of European art. In the afternoon, take a leisurely walk through the museum's Picture Gallery, admiring works from the Renaissance to the Baroque period. This evening, we will attend the opera **Die Walküre** by Wagner at the **Vienna Staatsoper**.

Monday, June 23 (B,L). VIENNA – BRATISLAVA – VIENNA

Today, we will take an excursion tour to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. After arriving in Bratislava, we will enjoy a guided walking tour through the historic Old Town, seeing landmarks such as the Bratislava Castle, St. Martin's Cathedral, and the charming Main Square with its Old

Town Hall and Roland Fountain. Lunch at a nice restaurant in Bratislava. The evening is at leisure.

Bratislava:

Nestled along the banks of the Danube River, Bratislava is a city rich in history and cultural heritage. As the capital of Slovakia, it boasts a unique blend of medieval and modern architecture. The historic Old Town is a labyrinth of narrow, winding streets and picturesque squares, with vibrant cafes and shops alongside centuries-old buildings. Bratislava Castle, perched atop a hill, offers panoramic views of the city and the river. With a thriving arts scene, lively nightlife, and a welcoming atmosphere, Bratislava is a hidden gem in Central Europe.

Tuesday, June 24 (B,L). VIENNA

Today morning is at leisure. We suggest visiting the Mozarthaus Vienna, the only surviving apartment of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in Vienna, and exploring the Beethoven Pasqualatihaus, where Beethoven composed many of his famous works. This evening, we will see the opera **Pique Dame** by Tchaikovsky at the **Vienna Staatsoper**.

Wednesday, June 25 (B,D). VIENNA

Morning is free to visit the Secession Building, housing the Beethoven Frieze created by Gustav Klimt, painter of "The Woman in Gold," or the Hundertwasserhaus to see the fairytale-like house with 50 apartments designed by the flamboyant Austrian artist, one of Vienna's most frequented landmarks. This evening, we will see the opera **Siegfried** by Wagner at the **Vienna Staatsoper**.

Thursday, June 26 (B,L). VIENNA

Today, we will take a day trip to the Vienna Woods, a scenic region offering a retreat from the city. Our visit will include a stop at Heiligenkreuz Abbey, a medieval monastery still active today. We will drive past Mayerling, the former hunting lodge's tragic history, and take a walking tour in Baden, known for its thermal springs and beautiful parks. We will also drive along the scenic wine route, enjoying the picturesque vineyards. Lunch will be at a charming restaurant in the Vienna Woods. Attend a **Concert** featuring renowned classical music.

Friday, June 27 (B,D). VIENNA

Today is free to visit some of the other artistic treasures of this city, such as taking a bus ride from near our hotel to the Belvedere Palace, built by Prince Eugene of Savoy, and Schönbrunn Palace, built by Empress Maria Theresa. This evening, we will have **Gala Farewell dinner**.

Saturday, June 28 (B,D). VIENNA

Today, we are taking a walking tour of the "Hidden Streets and Courtyards of Vienna," covering the Mozarthaus (no inside visit), Deutschordenshaus (Mozart and Brahms lived there), Blutgassen Quarters, Old University Quarters, Ballgasse, and Franziskaner Square. This afternoon, we will see Wagner's opera **Götterdämmerung** by Wagner at the **Vienna Staatsoper**.

Sunday, June 29. (B). VIENNA – U.S.A.

Morning departure aboard your flight back home, arriving the same afternoon. Auf wiedersehn. See you on another HAT Tours.

* B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner (including wine)

LAND COST

DOUBLE: \$12,900 PER PERSON

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,550 PER PERSON

DEPOSIT: \$2,500 PER PERSON

BALANCE DUE: MARCH 18, 2025

TOUR INCLUDES

- 1st Category Orchestra Level seats in theaters
- Five Operas
- Two Concerts
- 10 nights at the luxury centrally located 5-star Grand Hotel
- Buffet breakfast daily
- Two dinners with wine in a gourmet restaurant, 3 dinners with drinks at the opera house and 2 lunches with drinks
- Welcome reception with cocktails
- Private sightseeing
- Excursion to Bratislava
- Excursion to Vienna Woods
- Luxury coach for excursion tours
- Experienced English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees to museums
- Guide, driver and bellboys gratuities
- Complete package with details of all operas listed

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