

## **Your city tour in Wiener Neustadt**

#### **Guided tours**

City Hall, Main Square, Cathedral, Neukloster and Military Academy - these are just some of the historic sights that will show you the history of Wiener Neustadt.

#### Key data

- € 7,00 per person (max 35 people)
- minimum number of participants 8 persons
- € 50,00 for small groups of 1 to 7 people
- Spoken in: German, English, French

Detailed castle tours and flexible route design possible on request. (Reservation required!)

#### For further information and booking:

**Infopoint Old Town Hall:** Hauptplatz 1-3, 2700 Wiener Neustadt Tel. 0 26 22/373-311 | Email: office@wiener-neustadt.at

#### **Segway tours**

Step up, find your balance and whiz through the city almost silently.

#### Welt in Bewegung - Lower Austrian Exhibition 2019

On this tour, you can get to know the history of mobility in Wiener Neustadt quite easily and quickly.

#### Key data

- Distance covered: approximately 8 km
- Duration: approximately 2 hours
- Price: € 53,00 per person, included in the price: SEGWAY, guide, helmet, instruction, description of the tour, map of Wiener Neustadt

#### More information and offers:

**SEGWAY Wiener Neustadt:** Neunkirchner Straße 17, 2700 Wiener Neustadt. Tel.: 0681 202 90 100 office@segway-wn.at | www.segway-wn.at



#### **Imprint**

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Franz Piribauer, MSc City councilor for

## Dear Ladies and Gentlemen! Dear friends of culture!

Traces of the past can be seen and experienced in many places in our city, a former royal residence. Numerous jewels from bygone days can be counted among the fixed components of Wiener Neustadt. As town councilors, it is our heartfelt wish to draw attention to these historic elements in our modern city and to make the city's history easily accessible to its citizens. In this folder, you will find valuable information about the city, its history and sights. We invite you to explore and experience the history of our city with our cultural parcours. Especially with regard to the Lower Austrian exhibition 2019 WORLD IN MOTION which is also strongly influenced by historic and cultural elements, this guided tour is certainly a perfect option.

The revitalization of our casemates, with which we make another piece of the past publicly accessible, is a particular highlight.

The Theresian Military Academy and the Neukloster are also among the historically significant buildings of the exhibition. With this brochure you have the opportunity to easily and simply expand your knowledge of history.

We hope you enjoy discovering and exploring our city and wish you a pleasant stay in its historical center!



The surveyor Prof. DI Dr. Erwin Reidinger explored medieval city planning. The surveying points in the ground indicate the positions he defined for the stakeout of the historical city. His research supports the theory that the founding of Wiener Neustadt took place in 1192.

#### 3. Grätzl

The term "Grätzl", for the block of houses in the western part of the main square, first appears in the 16th century. Until its demolition in 1770, the St. Niklas Chapel was located here. The present-day block of buildings originated from the former stalls.

#### 1. Old Town Hall

In the second half of the 16th and at the beginning of the 17th century, the Gothic town hall was remodeled in the style of the Renaissance. After the great city fire in 1834 it was redesigned in the Classical style. The coat of arms on the facade comes from the former city gates which were demolished in 1860.

In no way he would have been able to see the bru-

tal spectacle from that window!

4 | Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt | 5

#### 4. Memorial Stone "1522"

This marker reminds us of the execution site where the rebellious councilors of the Viennese state government died in 1522. The self-proclaimed regents had taken over the state administration in 1519 and ruled the sovereign Kammergut. In August 1522, Archduke Ferdinand had eight of the eleven accused beheaded after a show trial, seven of them on the main square.

#### 5. St Mary's Column

Built on behalf of the local Bishop Leopold Duke Kollonitsch in memory of the weddings of the sisters of Emperor Leopold I in 1678 in the castle. Bishop Franz Anton Graf Puchheim donated the balustrade with the statues of the plague saints in 1714 in gratitude for the end of a plague epidemic.

#### 6. Arcades

Protected by the Gothic arcades of the town houses on the east, northeast and the southwest sides of the main square, merchants offered their goods well into the 20th century.

#### 7. Schrauthammer Fountain

The fountain was originally in front of the house Hauptplatz 30 which belonged to the benefactor of the fountain Hans Schrauthammer. The stonemason and sculptor Johann Baptist Zelpi created the stone fountain in 1609. In 1936, fragments were used to reconstruct the former fishmarket on the northwestern side of the main square. The design of the grid was created by Senta Platzer.

#### 8. Cathedral

This is a late Romanesque building, construction started with the founding of the city. The consecration took place in 1279. In the 14th century demolition of the Romanesque



apse and construction of the Gothic Transept and gothic choir. Bishopric Church between 1469 and 1785. The southern side gate, the so-called "bridal gate", displays Norman ornaments. Next to it the tombstone of Croatian magnates Zrinski and Frankopan who were executed in 1671. At the end of the 15th century furnishings of the nave with wooden statues of the 12 apostles and the Annunciation Group. On the right side of the high altar Epitaph of Melchior Khlesl with his bust attributed to Gian Lorenzo Bernini. The counter-reformer Khlesl - sent to Wiener Neustadt in 1580 - donated the early Baroque pulpit and died in 1630 in Wiener Neustadt. Late baroque high altar by Gabriele Molinarola. The high altar painting by Domenico Cignaroli depicts the Assumption of Our Lady. Since the 19th century, excavation and subsequent rebuilding of the dilapidated cathedral towers. Renovation of the cathedral between 1976 and 1979 and between 1995 and 2000. Not far from the southern side of the cathedral there is a Moses fountain, created by Prof. Ernst Fuchs, an artist of the Vienna School of Fantastic Realism

#### 9. Residence of the Provost

This building was the City Palace of the Babenberger at the beginning of the 13th century; from 1469-1785 it was episcopal residence and since then the residence of the provost. The front wing houses St. Katharine Chapel with the tomb of the residential Bishop Franz Anton Graf Puchheim who had the baroque portal built.

#### 10. Reckturm

This northwestern tower of the city fortification, was built at the beginning of the 13th century and used from the beginning of modern times for the storage of torture tools. The tower was the municipal office and prison house until the end of the 19th century. From 1957 it contained a small museum, since 1994 there is an exhibition of a private collection of weapons.





In the 13th century the nunnery was handed over to the Dominicans in 1444 and rebuilt by the imperial builder Peter von Pusica in the middle of the 15th century. There is a notable gothic portal on the south side. It was a monastery in the 16th century, in the 18th century the church was profaned and used as a warehouse or inn. From 1966, the church was used for art exhibitions. The monastery was the location of the city archives between 1964 and 1992, after construction of a modern annex in 1994, the city museum. It was renovated between 2017 - 2018 due to the state exhibition.

#### 12. John of Nepomuk Chapel

The Statue of John Nepomuk, donated in 1704 by the councilor C. A. Exinger. In 1756, the chapel was built by Steinmetz Anton Obermayer.

After various transfers, it was removed and deposited in 1901. Later it was set up again by Rotary-Club Wiener Neustadt in 1979 at John Nepomuk-Platz, not far from the original location.

## 13. Church and Jesuit residence of St. Leopold

Donated by Franz Leopold Zungaberg, the last male heir to the Czonkaberg family (Zungaberg) who converted from Islam to Christianity. 1737 and 1745, there was the construction of a church and a vicarage ("residence") for the Jesuits. In 1773, the pope ordered the abrogation of the Jesuit vicarage; in 1791, the municipality took over the residence and set up a military hospital. Later, from 1904 to 1992, the residence housed the museum. Today, the city archive is located in the baroque building.

#### 14. Kaiserbrunnen

Today it is located in front of the city archives after being displaced several times for traffic reasons. It now serves as a water fountain. According to the city historian Aloys Gleich, the fountain was named after later Emperor Ferdinand I who refreshed himself at the fountain when he arrived in 1522. Another historian, Johann Nepomuk Fronner, sees Kaiser Friedrich III. as the initiator of the fountain, as it shows a portrait of Friedrich and his initials AFIOU

10 | Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt | 11



#### **Parcours Specials**

Wiener Neustadt's cinema history began in 1903 in Goldener Hirsch Hotel in Neunkirchner Straße, with "Ali Baba and the 40 robbers". From 1908, the French firm Cinema-Banca in the "Wiener Neustädter Biographen" of the Carmelite Church showed "flicker-free, cheerful and instructive pictures" with piano music. From 1931 to 1955, the cinema, then called "Apollo Cinema", was one of the city's favorite leisure activities. Cinematograph theater, Atlantis cinema, Skala, Elite Cinema and Central Cinema brought the world of films to the city center for decades. The Theater Cinema, a cultural institution until 1999, has been showing films again since 2017.

#### 15. Former Carmelite Church

The Baroque Monastery of the Carmelites, established in 1663, built on the site of the old Deutsch Orden church. After the abolition of the monastery during the reforms of Joseph II, it housed a textile factory and later a cinema. From 1979 to 2010 it was used for art exhibitions. In 2017, renovation started in order to install facilities of the University of Applied Sciences Wiener Neustadt, as well as a complex library including the city library.

#### 16. Church and Monastery Neukloster

It was originally a monastery of the Dominicans, then Friedrich III. decicated the buildings to the Cistercians in 1444.. It was a Gothic hall church of the 15th century with valuable Baroque furnishings. Behind the baroque high altar (altarpiece "Assumption of Mary" by Anton Schoon- Jans) there is the tomb of Eleonore of Portugal, the wife of Emperor Frederick III, who died in 1467. The Monastery library, chapter house and dining room which has ceiling frescoes by Johann Bergl. Since 1880 it belongs to the monastery of Heiligenkreuz. In 2017 they opened the "Kunst- und Wunderkammer" showing the extensive collection of the monastery to the public.

#### 17. Military Academy

Originally a castle with 4 towers from the 13th century, expanded in the 15th century as the residence of Emperor Friedrich III. In the mid-15th century St. George's Chapel was installed in the west wing of the castle. The Gothic hall church has glass paintings, coat of arms on the west side of the courtyard. The castle was the birthplace of Emperor Maximilian I in 1459. In 1519, he was buried in St. George's Chapel.

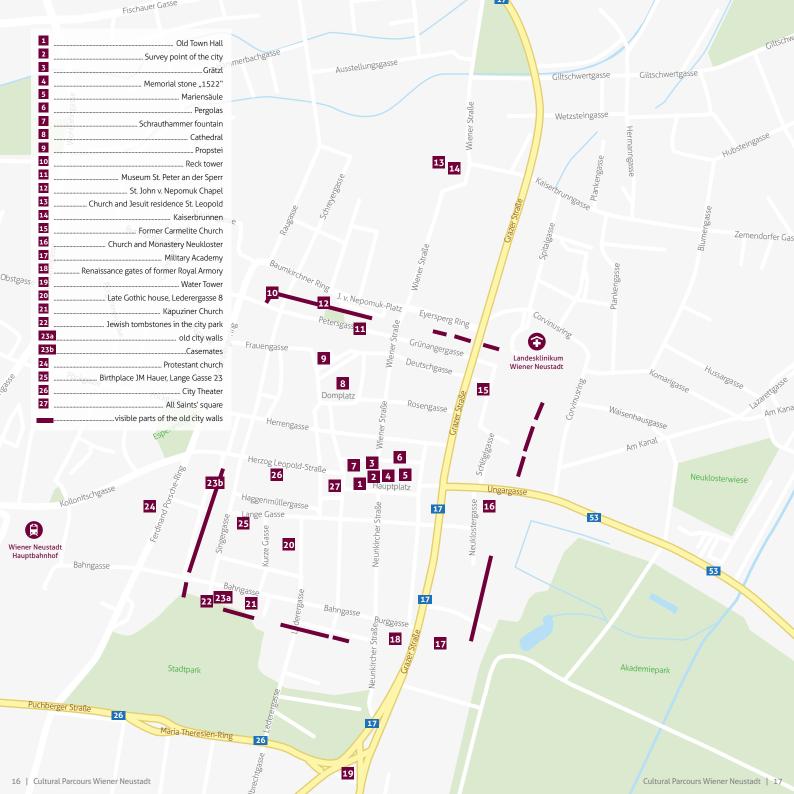
In 1752 the Military Academy was founded by Empress Maria Theresia. After an earthquake in 1768, only 1 of the 4 towers remained ("Rákóczy tower"). After heavy destruction of the castle in World War II, reconstruction of the building and St. George's Cathedral started in 1963. Apart from short interruptions, the castle is still home to the "Theresian Military Academy".

#### 18. Renaissance gates of the former Imperial Armory

Still standing is the Imperial Armory, built in 1524 by Emperor Ferdinand I, a long building with two lateral towering gables with battlements used to store the armor and weapons of the Imperial mercenaries. The large Renaissance gate is located in Gra-

zer Straße, opposite the castle, and it shows a mighty beautifully decorated triangular pediment as well as a portrait of the emperor and his wife Anna of Hungary. The small gate is located in the north, opposite Neunkirchner Straße; it has a straight roof and is simpler. The building was demolished in 1955. Today, there is an administrative building, a four-wing campus which houses the police headquarters in Wiener Neustadt.





#### 19. Water Tower

A few months after opening the first section of the deep well water pipeline, the local council decided to build a water tower. Construction in 1909/1910 by the local company Koblischek based on plans of the Viennese architects Theiß and Jaksch. The shape seems to represent the Corvinus Cup. Destroyed in the wake of the bombings in March 1945, repaired in 1950, re-commissioned in April 1951. Until today used as a control tank.

#### 20. Late Gothic house, Lederergasse 8

Councilor and craftsman Christof Wulfinger bought the house in 1484. Today it houses the "Hildegard von Bingen health school". Renovated in 1992.

#### 21. Capuchin Church

Originally a church of the Minorite Convent, which was documented as early as the 13th century. It features Gothic choir and Gothic stone statues of St. Mary and St. Jacob from the late 14th century. After a fire, the nave was not rebuilt, but the choir was transfered to the west. Transfer to the Capuchin Order and installation of a baroque vault was in 1623. To this day it is the seat of a fraternity of the Capuchins.

#### 22. Jewish tombstones in the city park

To the left of "Jakoberturm", the southwestern corner tower of the city fortifications, there are medieval tombstones. They were found during the demolition of the old fortifications in 1846. They date back to the ancient Jewish cemetery outside the city walls which was abandoned after the expulsion of the community by Maximilian Lin 1500.





#### 23. Fortification and casemates

Work at the city fortifications (23b) probably started shortly after the foundation of the city. In the 15th century, the city wall reached its final height of up to 13.50 m. Next was the expansion of the fortification by higher walls under Emperor Friedrich III. From the total of 4 gate towers, including gate towers and 11 wall towers, today there are only the northwestern corner tower ("Reckturm") and two intermediate towers left - in the west "Rabenturm", in the south "Brüderturm" and the southwestern corner tower, "Jako-

modernization of the fortifications was started. Bastions and the Imperial Arsenal were built. According to plans of fortress builder Johann Tscherte, the casemates were built along the southwestern city wall in the mid 16th century. There weapons and ammunition were stored. The north entrance was a Renaissance portal. Now - during the reconstruction phase for the state exhibition historical research and archeology develop a comprehensive re-evaluation of the unique facility. In the second half of the 19th century, parts of the fortifications were removed. After archaeological investigations at the end of Duke Leopold road the position of the western city gate ("fish gate") could be traced by layers of colored stones. Its impressive size is illustrated by the model in the nearby display window.

20 | Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt | 21

### 24. Protestant Church **Parcours Specials** In 1981, a Luther Bible from 1545 was found The Counter-Reformation ended the existence of the Proin the attic of the Protestant church at Ferditestant community at the end of the 16th century. It was not nand Porsche-Ring 4. How and when this ediuntil 1837 that Sunday service was celebrated in the first tion came to Wiener Neustadt remains a mystery. church on today's Allerheiligenplatz. The church commu-Martin Luther interpretes his teaching solely from nity, founded in 1867, soon needed a larger church. It was the Bible. His translation into German made Holy planned and built in 1910/11 by architects Siegfried Theiß Scripture understandable to many. The reading and and Hans Jaksch. After the bomb damage of World War 2, above all the reciting of the German Bible opened between 1951 and 1955, repairs were done and in 1981 immediate access to the Holy Scripture for many reconstruction of the original tower roof was complete. In people. Until then, the Latin-trained priests had 1981 discovery of a 16th century Luther Bible in the attic of been explaining the Bible to the faithful. The Biblia the church - today it is shown in the city museum. Teutsch became a success. During Luther's lifetime, about 1 million copies were printed. The Catholic 25. Birthplace of Josef Matthias Hauer, "religious commissars" looked for Bibles in German Lange Gasse 23 in homes where Protestants were suspected. For fear of the measures of the Counter-Reformation, as with the Bible in Wiener Neustadt, the cover with the name of Martin Luther was often removed.

The founder of twelve-tone music was born on March 19, 1883, in an originally simple house. In 1919 - before Arnold Schoenberg — Hauer created twelve-tone music, his portfolio contains theoretical writings and numerous compositions, including two operas ("The Black Spider" and "Salambo"). He died on September 22, 1959 in Vienna.

22 | Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt | 23

#### 26. Municipal Theater

Built in the second half of the 17th century, the Church of the Carmelites was adapted as a theater after profanation under Emperor Joseph II. The theater business then remained an unsteady business. The tenants and/or managers alternated frequently. After fire damage in 1932, it closed. It reopened in 1948 as a theater and cinema, then renovated in 1979. In 1999 the cinema was closed, but movie presentations were reinstalled in 2017.





#### 27. Allerheiligenplatz

Central square of the medieval Jewish quarter with important Jewish institutions such as butcher, hospital and ritual bath (Mikwe). The house Allerheiligenplatz No. 1, now a coffee house, was the medieval synagogue. During the redesign of the square in 2014, we came across a wall and a well, whose location is indicated by soil markings. An infostele informs about the history of the Jewish community.

#### Other Sights outside the route of the cultural trail:

#### Archway of the former locomotive factory and locomotive "Fanny" in Pottendorfer Straße

Both remind of the Wiener Neustadt locomotive factory founded in 1842

#### Gothic Waypost "Spinner at the Cross" near the Cemetery

One of the most important gothic pillars

#### Jewish Cemetery, Wiener Straße 95

The key is located in the city archive, Wiener Straße 63

#### **Liesganig Surveying Monument**

renovated with the support of the RC Bad Fischau Thermal Region.

#### **Culture Course for Young Explorers**

# The Seven Wonders of Wiener Neustadt for Young Hobby Historians



#### The wavering ground

Wiener Neustadt was founded by Babenberger Leopold V and built with the help of the ransom for Richard the Lionheart as a border fortress against Hungary. The place where the city was built was strategically so important that the city fathers even accepted the marshy terrain. This boggy ground gave way very easily under the feet and therefore was called "The Floating Soil" by the first settlers.



#### The salad growing on trees

As mentioned before, the town was built on a swamp. In order to give the fluctuating soil more stability, logs were put into the ground. Later, when the settlers cultivated vegetables (including salad) in their gardens, the salad literally "grew on trees".



#### The house without nails

At the northern city gate, the Vienna Gate, there was once the "house without nails". It was allegedly built without a single nail. It was demolished in the 19th century.

The so-called **Seven Wonders of Wiener Neustadt** are a reference to the Seven Wonders of the World and refer to seven peculiarities that were to be found – and partly still exist - in the history of the city of Wiener Neustadt. Of course, the "miracles" are historically not always perfectly derived - but they all have a true core.



#### The tomb between heaven and earth

Emperor Maximilian, son of Emperor Friedrich III and Eleanor Helena of Portugal, was not buried in his famous tomb in the Hofkirche in Innsbruck. The last knight, as Maximilian I is also called, decreed that he would like to be buried in Wiener Neustadt. As the church in the castle is on the first floor, his grave is between heaven and earth.



#### The church under which a hay wagon can drive through

The only entrance to the castle at the time of Maximilian I was below St. George's Cathedral, so that vehicles and wagons could pass only under the church.

26 | Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt | Cultural Parcours Wiener Neustadt | 27



#### The church under the bridge

There was once a bridge between the two cathedral towers that was destroyed in 1834, when a major fire raged through the city. The bridge connected the two towers so that the tower guard could observe the city in all directions.



#### Two rivers that flow above each other

In the urban area of Wiener Neustadt, two brooks actually intersect, namely the Warm Fischa and the Wiener Neustädter Kanal. If you look closely at the map, you can see that the Kehrbach and the Wiener Neustädter Kanal intersect a few hundred meters to the south. The canal is an artificial water way originally planned from Vienna to Trieste. But then it was not finished and so the canal ends in Wiener Neustadt.

The drawings are by pupils of Wiener Neustädter Volks-, Mittel- and Höheren Schulen and were honored in a school competition in 2014/15.



# The "Infopoint Old Town Hall": The first point of contact for guests of the city

#### The service offer

- Information about all events in the city
- Tourist information & folders (city maps, cultural parcours, etc.)
- Organization of city tours
- Sale of charging vouchers for mobile parking as well as short-term parking tickets
- "Ö Ticket" presale
- Sale of "Wiener Neustadt Shopping vouchers"
- WC incl. barrier-free toilet

#### **Opening hours**

Monday - Friday 6.30 am - 7 pm, Saturday 8 am - 1 pm

#### Ö-Ticket and voucher sale:

Monday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm and 1.30 pm - 6 pm, Saturday 9 am - 1 pm

**For further information**: Infopoint Old Town Hall Old Town Hall, ground floor, Hauptplatz 1-3, 2700 Wiener Neustadt Tel. 0 26 22 / 373-311 | Email: office@wiener-neustadt.at

## **Lower Austrian State Exhibition Wiener Neustadt**

March 30 to November 10, 2019

The NÖ Landesausstellung from March 30 to November 10, 2019 will take place in Wiener Neustadt and the surrounding region. In the city itself, four exhibition venues are in the center of attention: the revitalized and redesigned Casemates, the museum St. Peter at the Sperr, and the two partner locations Military Academy and Neukloster.



The Casemates: once a city fortification, today a unique cultural monument. This is where the history of mobility is narrated as part of the NÖ Landesausstellung. The focus will be on Wiener Neustadt and its relations to the region on a small scale as well as to the world in general. Multimedia Installations, fascinating objects and extraordinary biographies accompany us on a journey through "yesterday, today and tomorrow". How does mobility change our future?



#### MUSEUM ST. PETER AT THE SPERE

In the museum St. Peter at the Sperr and the former monastery (from the 13th century), Wiener Neustadt will present itself in the mirror of world history. Firstly, the focus is on the work of Habsburg Emperor Friedrich III. and Maximilian I, who ruled from our city. How the former imperial residence developed into an industrial city and a place of innovation can be seen in the biographies of influential personalities. But what does the city of the future look like?



The oldest military academy in the world was founded by Maria Theresia and will open its doors to visitors during the Lower Austrian Exhibition. The focus of this exhibition will be the life of Emperor Maximilian I, his tomb in St. George's Cathedral and military training once and now.



Founded by Emperor Friedrich III in 1444, the monastery has shaped the cityscape and influenced spiritual life. Today it is part of the Cistercian monastery Heiligenkreuz. The tour of the New Monastery will take you to the treasures of the Chamber of Art and Curiosities, to the unique library, through the refectory and to the tomb of Eleanor of Portugal, the wife of Emperor Frederick, behind the high altar. By the way, Mozart's famous Requiem was also premiered in the church.



#### SMALL WATER POWER PLANT UNGARFELD

Opened in 1917, the power station is located at the beginning of Wiener Neustädter Kanal which is filled from here. In the World Wars, electric power for the armament factories was produced here. In the context of the exhibition, the old generators and turbines will also be



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WIENER NEUSTADT