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All sights & the 7 wonders

REDISCOVER WIENER NEUSTADT
ON TWO EXCITING EXPLORATION TOURS





Inspiring people to discover Wiener Neustadt

The uniqueness and diversity of Wiener Neustadt is reflected in these themed walking trails, which allow locals and visitors alike to explore the city. They fulfil an important function: inspiring people to discover Wiener Neustadt while also promoting health and fitness.

Wiener Neustadt is always one step ahead!

Johanna Mikl-Leitner
Governor of the State of Lower Austria



History, culture, health and exercise can be perfectly combined – on our themed walking trails. I warmly invite you to discover them and gain new knowledge or refresh old knowledge on a walk. Our themed walking tours promise fun for the whole family and help us to get more exercise. So you benefit in many ways!

Klaus Schneeberger
Mayor



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Cultural trail

WITH THE CITY'S
MOST IMPORTANT SIGHTS



© Busy Shutter

↔ 6,4 km

🕒 1h 38 min



1. Stadtpark (Municipal Park)

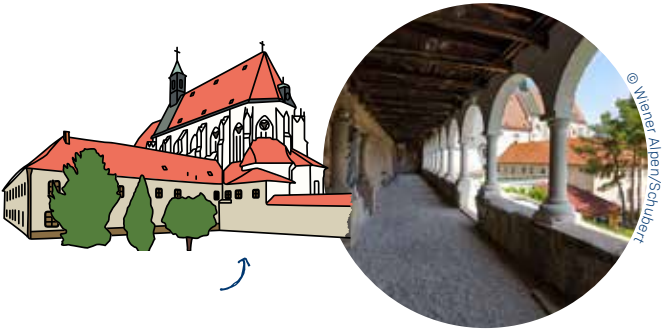
After the great fire of 8th September 1834, the municipal authorities had the first promenade built on the glaxis between Fischauer Gate and Neunkirchner Gate to provide the population the opportunity to take a walk in the countryside. In accordance with a regulatory plan, the existing paths, the lime tree and chestnut tree avenues and the newly acquired meadows were combined to form a „Stadtpark“ in 1872. In the first decade of the 20th century, architectural elements such as the music pavilion, a fountain basin, a rose garden and the Emperor Franz Joseph monument were added. Today, this green jewel in the city centre covers an area of 74,891 m² and is a modern park. It is an open space for those seeking relaxation, a sports facility and a children's playground. In addition to the natural biotope and a picturesque rose garden, it contains tree monuments, rare woody plants and many traces of history waiting to be discovered.

***2. Late Gothic house* | LEDERERGASSE 8**

Council member and master stove fitter Christof Wulfinger acquired the house in 1484. It was renovated in 1992 and was the headquarters of the Hildegard von Bingen Health School until 2020. Today it is privately owned.

3. Birthplace of *Josef Matthias Hauer* | LANGE GASSE 23

The inventor of twelve-tone music was born on 19th March 1883 in this simple middle-class house, which has since undergone significant changes. Hauer discovered twelve-tone music in 1919, even before Arnold Schönberg. His estate includes theoretical writings and numerous compositions, including two operas (“The black spider” and “Salambo”). He died on 22nd September 1959 in Vienna.

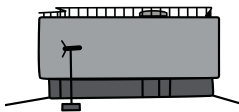


4. Capuchin Church

Originally the church of the Minorite monastery, which can be traced back to the 13th century. Gothic choir and Gothic stone statues of St. Mary and St. James from the end of the 14th century. After a fire, the nave was not rebuilt, but the choir was moved to the west. In 1623, it was handed over to the Capuchin Order and a Baroque vault was installed. It is still the seat of a Capuchin brotherhood today.



5. Casemates



Based on plans by fortress architect Johann Tscherte, the casemates were built in the southwest corner of the town against the fortification walls from the middle of the 16th century onwards as the final extension to the city's fortifications. They were used to store weapons and ammunition. Access from the north was via a Renaissance portal. During the construction phase leading up to the provincial exhibition, building research and archaeology teams carried out an extensive re-evaluation of this unique complex. The award-winning architectural gem, built according to the plans of the Slovenian architectural firm bevk perovic, now houses the permanent exhibition "The City as a Fortress", is the venue for the "wortwiege" theatre festival and a stage for cultural events such as the "Bösendorfer Festival", as well as a unique location for events, congresses, celebrations, weddings and much more.

FUN FACT:



The casemates - once designed and built as a defensive structure - hosted non-military events for a time in the 20th century. In the 1960s and 1970s, the greats of the Wiener Neustadt music scene played in the unique vaulted space. The "Mayflowers" and "Magic Sound" thrilled the guests. The youth of Wiener Neustadt enjoyed themselves with dancing and music. It is even said that some couples looking for a quiet spot ended up in the former bear cage in the Stadtpark (Municipal Park).





6. Jewish gravestones in the „Stadtspark“

Medieval gravestones are located to the left of the “Jakober Tower”, the south-western corner tower of the city fortifications. These were found when the old fortifications were demolished in 1846. They originate from the Jewish cemetery located outside the city fortifications, which had to be abandoned for good after the community was expelled by Maximilian I around 1500.

7. Protestant Church

The Counter-Reformation ended the existence of the Protestant community at the end of the 16th century. It was not until 1837 that services could be held in the first church on what is now Allerheiligenplatz. The congregation, founded in 1867, soon needed a larger place of worship. It was built in 1910/11 according to plans by architects Siegfried Theiß and Hans Jaksch. Between 1951 and 1955, the bomb damage from the Second World War was repaired, and in 1981 the original spire was reconstructed. In 1981, a 16th century Luther Bible was found in the attic of the church and is now on permanent loan to the Museum St. Peter an der Sperr.



FUN FACT:

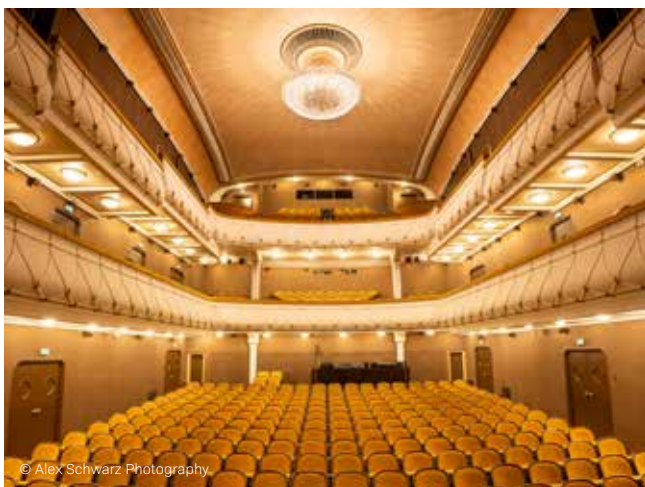
The Bible, dating from 1545, was found in 1981 in the attic of the Protestant church at Ferdinand Porsche-Ring 4. How and when this edition came to Wiener Neustadt remains a mystery. Martin Luther justified his teachings solely on the basis of the Bible. His translation into German made the Holy Scriptures understandable to many. Reading and, above all, reading aloud from the German Bible now gave many people direct access to the Holy Scriptures. Until then, priests trained in Latin had explained the Bible to the faithful.

The "Biblia Teutsch" became a success. During Luther's lifetime alone, about 1 million copies were printed. Catholic "religious commissioners" searched houses where Protestants were suspected of living for Bibles in German. For fear of the measures of the Counter-Reformation, the title page with Martin Luther's name was very often removed, as was the case with the Bible in Wiener Neustadt.



8. City fortifications

Work on the city fortifications probably began shortly after the city was founded. In the 15th century, the city fortifications reached their final height of up to 13.50 metres. The complex was expanded with outer works and the city fortifications were raised under Emperor Frederick III. Of the four gate towers, including the outer gate towers, and 11 wall towers, only the north-western corner tower ("Reck Tower") and two intermediate towers – the "Raven Tower" in the west and the "Brother's Tower" in the south – and the south-western corner tower, "Jakober Tower", near the casemates, are well preserved. In the 16th century, the fortifications were modernised in response to the threat posed by the Ottomans. Bastions and the Imperial Armoury were built. In the second half of the 19th century, parts of the fortifications were demolished. After archaeological investigations at the exit of Herzog Leopold Street, the location of the western city gate ("Fischauer Gate") was indicated by the laying of coloured stones. Its imposing size is illustrated by the model in the nearby display case.



9. Stadttheater (Municipal Theatre)

The Carmelite church, built in the second half of the 17th century, was converted into a theatre after being secularised under Emperor Joseph II. The theatre business remained unstable thereafter. Tenants and directors changed frequently. In 1932, it closed after damage to the infrastructure caused by a fire. It reopened as a theatre and cinema in 1948 and was renovated in 1979. The „Stadttheater“ underwent extensive renovation until 2024 and was ceremoniously reopened in time for its 230th anniversary.

10. Allerheiligenplatz

Central square of the medieval Jewish quarter with important Jewish institutions such as the meat bank, hospital and ritual bath (Mikvah). The house at Allerheiligenplatz No. 1, now a coffee house, was the medieval synagogue. During the redesign of the square in 2014, a wall and a well were discovered, the location of which is marked on the ground. An information stele provides information about the history of the Jewish community.

11. Grätzl

The term “Grätzl” for the block of houses in the western part of the main square first appeared in the 16th century. Until its demolition in 1770, St. Nicholas Chapel was located on this site. Over time, the market stalls around the chapel gave rise to the current block of houses.



© Michael Weller

12. Old Town Hall

First mentioned in documents in 1401 as the seat of the city judge, it has been the meeting place of the city council since the middle of the 15th century. In the second half of the 16th century and at the beginning of the 17th century, the Gothic town hall was redesigned in the Renaissance style. After the great city fire of 1834, it was redesigned in the classicist style. The coats of arms on the facade come from the city gates, which were demolished around 1860.



FUN FACT:

On the first floor of the town hall, overlooking Neunkirchner Street, there is a window that was bricked up centuries ago. Why and when exactly this happened is a mystery. An incredible story surrounds Archduke Ferdinand I, who, according to legend, watched the execution of the "Vienna rebels" from this window in 1522 and then allegedly had the window bricked up. All pure fiction, say historians. The only thing that is documented is that the young ruler sat in the gallery on the main square during the trial. Furthermore, he would not have been able to see the brutal spectacle from the window.

13. Memorial stone "1522"

Commemorates the place of execution where the rebellious councillors of the Viennese provincial government met their deaths in 1522. The self-appointed rulers had taken over the provincial administration in 1519 and had control over the provincial chamber estates. In August 1522, after a show trial, Archduke Ferdinand had eight of the eleven defendants beheaded, seven of them in the main square.

14. Survey point of the city

Surveyor Prof. DI Dr. Erwin Reidinger researched medieval urban planning. The survey points marked on the ground document the positions he calculated for the historical city layout. His research supports the theory that Wiener Neustadt was founded in 1192.



15. Marian Column

Erected on behalf of Leopold Count Kollonitsch, Bishop of Wiener Neustadt, in memory of the weddings of Emperor Leopold I's sisters in 1678 in the castle. Bishop Franz Anton Count Puchheim donated the balustrade with the statues of the plague saints in 1714 in gratitude for the end of a plague epidemic.

16. Arcades

Until the 20th century, merchants sold their wares under the late Gothic arcades of the town houses to the east, northeast and southwest of the main square.

17. Schrauthammer Fountain

Originally located in front of the house at Main Square 30, which belonged to the donor Hans Schrauthammer. The stonemason and sculptor Johann Baptist Zelpi created the stone fountain surround in 1609. In 1936, fragments were used for reconstruction at the former fish market on the north-western Main Square. The design of the grille is by Senta Platzer.



18. Schau!Depot

The Schau!Depot provides insight into the inner workings of a museum collection. It sees itself as a “work in progress” and is constantly changing as a result of the museum’s work. The innovative concept enables a sensory and intense encounter with the original objects of the former industrial district museum. Annual exhibitions on topics related to everyday life and work history bring exhibits to the fore and illustrate how daily life has changed over the past decades.



19. Cathedral

Late Romanesque building, construction began with the founding of the city. Consecrated in 1279. In the 14th century, the Romanesque apse was demolished and the Gothic transept and choir were built. Bishop's church between 1469 and 1785. The south side gate, known as the "Bride's Gate", features Norman decorative elements. Next to it is the tombstone of the Croatian magnates Zrinski and Frankopan, who were executed in 1671. At the end of the 15th century, the nave was furnished with wooden statues of the 12 apostles and the Annunciation group. To the right of the high altar is the epitaph of Melchior Khlesl with his bust, which is attributed to Gian Lorenzo Bernini. Khlesl, a Counter-Reformationist sent to Wiener Neustadt in the 1580s, donated the early Baroque pulpit and died in Wiener Neustadt in 1630. Late Baroque high altar by Gabriele Molinarola; the high altarpiece by Domenico Cignaroli depicts the Assumption of Mary. At the end of the 19th century, the dilapidated cathedral towers were demolished and subsequently rebuilt. Renovation of the cathedral between 1976 and 1979 and between 1995 and 2000. Not far from the south side of the cathedral, the Moses Fountain, created by Prof. Ernst Fuchs, a representative of the Vienna School of Fantastic Realism, has stood since 1997.



FUN FACT:

The cathedral is the setting for various mystical, mysterious and legendary stories. For example, on a foggy November night in 1555, two thieves broke into the city archives in the southern tower of the cathedral. They stole a golden cross set with diamonds and two gold seals. With the loss of these seals, the now damaged documents of Emperor Frederick III became worthless to the city and had to be resealed by his great-grandson Ferdinand I. The perpetrators were arrested while selling the stolen goods in Eisenstadt. They were hanged in Wiener Neustadt, but according to the council minutes, they were first "torn apart with red-hot tongs".

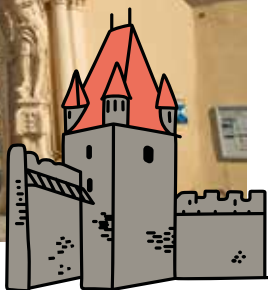
20. Provostry

At the beginning of the 13th century, it was the city palace of the Babenbergs, from 1469 to 1785 it was the bishop's residence, and since then it has been a provostry. In the front wing is St. Catherine's Chapel with the crypt of the Neustadt bishop Franz Anton Count Puchheim, who also had the Baroque portal built.



© Michael Weller

21. „Reck“ Tower



North-western corner tower of the city fortifications, built at the beginning of the 13th century. Used to store instruments of torture from the beginning of the modern era. The municipal office and prison were located next to the tower until the end of the 19th century. From 1957, it housed a small museum, and since 1994, it has been home to an exhibition of a private weapons collection.

22. Johannes von Nepomuk Chapel

Statue of Johannes Nepomuk, donated in 1704 by councillor C. A. Exinger. Chapel built in 1756 by stonemason Anton Obermayer. After various transfers, it was dismantled and deposited in 1901. Re-erected by the Rotary Club Wiener Neustadt in 1979 on Johannes von Nepomuk Square, not far from its original location.



23. Museum St. Peter an der Sperr

In the 13th century, this was a convent of Dominican nuns, which was handed over to the Dominicans in 1444 and rebuilt by the imperial architect Peter von Pusica in the mid-15th century. Remarkable Gothic portal on the south side. Convent in the 16th century, church desecrated in the 18th century and used as a warehouse and inn. From 1966, the church was used for art exhibitions. Between 1964 and 1992, it was the seat of the city archives, and since 1994, it has been the seat of the Museum St. Peter an der Sperr. Recent renovation and modernisation in 2017 to 2018 in connection with the provincial exhibition. Since 2020, the 800-year history of the city can be experienced in a multimedia format as part of the “neuSTADT ERZÄHLEN” exhibition.

24. Church and Jesuit Residence of St. Leopold

Donated by Franz Leopold Zungaberg, the last male heir of the Czönkabeg (Zungaberg) family, who converted from Islam to Christianity. Between 1737 and 1745, a church and a parish house (“residence”) were built for the Jesuits. In 1773, the Pope abolished the order; in 1791, the municipality took over the residence, which was converted into a military hospital. Later, from 1904 to 1992, the residence housed the museum. Since 1994, the city archives have been located in the Baroque building.



25. Emperor's Fountain

Now located in front of the city archives, this monument has had to change location several times for traffic reasons. It used to serve as a water dispenser. According to city chronicler Aloys Gleich, the fountain was named after the later Emperor Ferdinand I, who refreshed himself at the fountain upon his arrival in 1522. Another city expert, Johann Nepomuk Fronner, sees Emperor Frederick III as the initiator of the fountain, as it features a portrait of Frederick and his owner's mark AEIOU.

26. Former Carmelite Church

Baroque monastery church of the Carmelites, who settled here in 1663, built on the site of the old Teutonic Order church. After the monastery was dissolved in the course of Joseph II's reforms, it housed a textile factory and later a cinema. From 1979 to 2010, it was used for art exhibitions. Since 2019, it has been the location of the City Campus of the Wiener Neustadt University of Applied Sciences, as well as the library in the centre, consisting of the university library and the city library.

FUN FACT:



The cinema history of Wiener Neustadt began in 1903 with "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" at the Hotel "Goldener Hirsch" on Neunkirchner Street. From 1908 onwards, the Carmelite Church hosted the Wiener Neustädter Biographien cinema, run by the French company Cinema-Banca, which showed "flicker-free, cheerful and educational images" accompanied by piano music. From 1931 to 1955, the cinema, now called the Apollo Cinema, was one of the city's most popular leisure attractions. The Kinematographentheatre, Atlantis Cinema, Skala, Elite Cinema and Central Cinema brought the world of film to the city centre for decades. The Theatre Cinema was a popular meeting place for film lovers until 1999.



© FH Wiener Neustadt

27. Neukloster Church and Abbey

Originally a Dominican monastery, Frederick III handed the complex over to the Cistercians in 1444. Gothic hall church from the 15th century with valuable Baroque furnishings. Behind the Baroque high altar (altarpiece “Assumption of Mary” by Anton Schoonjans) is the tomb of Emperor Frederick III’s wife, Eleanor of Portugal, who died in 1467. Monastery library, chapter house and dining hall with ceiling frescoes by Johann Bergl. Since 1880, it has been a priory belonging to Heiligenkreuz Abbey. In 2017, the “Cabinet of Arts and Curiosities” was opened, in which the monastery’s extensive collection is accessible to the public.



© Wiener Alpen/Schubert



28. Renaissance gates of the former Imperial Armoury



Remains of the Imperial Armoury, built in 1524 under Archduke Ferdinand I, an elongated building with two steeply rising gables with battlements on either side, which was used to store the armour and weapons of the imperial mercenaries. The large Renaissance gate is located on Grazer Street, facing the castle, and features a mighty, richly decorated triangular gable and a portrait of the ruler and his wife Anna of Hungary. The small gate to the north, facing Neunkirchner Street, has a straight canopy and is more simply designed. The building was demolished in 1955. Today, an administrative building extended into a four-wing complex stands on this site, housing the Wiener Neustadt Provincial Police Headquarters.

29. Military Academy

Originally a four-tower castle from the 13th century, expanded in the 15th century as the residence of Emperor Frederick III. In the middle of the 15th century, St. George's Chapel was built into the west wing of the castle, a Gothic hall church with stained glass windows. Coat of arms wall on the west side of the courtyard. Emperor Maximilian I was born in the castle in 1459; in 1519, he was laid to rest in St. George's Chapel. In 1752, Maria Theresia founded the military academy. After an earthquake in 1768, only one of the original four towers remained ("Rákóczy Tower"). After the castle was largely destroyed in the Second World War, the castle and St. George's Cathedral were rebuilt (since 1963) based on the old model. Apart from a few brief interruptions, the castle has housed the "Theresian Military Academy" to this day.



30. Water Tower

A few months after the first section of the deep well water pipeline went into operation, the local council decided to build a Water Tower. It was constructed in 1909/1910 by the local company Koblischek based on plans by the Viennese architects Theiß and Jaksch. Its shape is reminiscent of the Corvinus cup. Destroyed in March 1945 during the bombing campaign; repaired in 1950, recommissioned in April 1951. Still in operation today as a regulating reservoir.

Sights outside the tour

© Michael Weller



ARCHWAY OF THE FORMER LOCOMOTIVE FACTORY AND LOCOMOTIVE "FANNY" *on Pottendorfer Straße*

Commemorates the Wiener Neustadt locomotive factory, founded in 1842

© Michael Weller



GOTHIC PATH COLUMN „SPINNERIN AM KREUZ“ *near the cemetery*

One of the most important Gothic waystations

© Marcel Billaudet



JEWISH CEMETERY *Wiener Straße 95*

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© Michael Weller



LIESGANIG MONUMENT *Kammanngasse 2-4*

Surveying monument, renovated with the support of RC Bad Fischau Thermenregion

© Michael Weller



FORMER AUSTRO DAIMLER TEST TRACK

At the intersection of Warme Fischa and Wiener Neustädter Kanal

Guided city and museum tours

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WONDERful Wiener Neustadt

THE SEVEN WONDERS OF WIENER NEUSTADT



The Seven Wonders of Wiener Neustadt were created in reference to the Seven Wonders of the World and are intended to highlight seven special features that exist in the history of the city and, in some cases, still exist today. Of course, the “wonders” are not always historically accurate, but they all have a grain of truth.

© Raimo Rudolf Rumpler



8,3 km



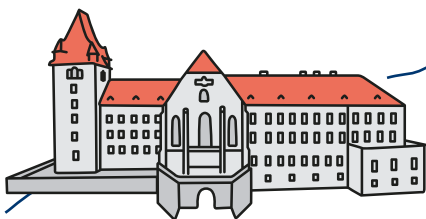
1h 38 min



30 min

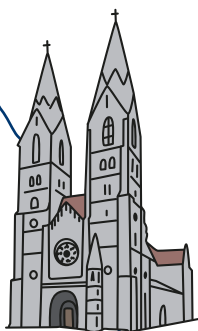
The grave between heaven and earth

Emperor Maximilian I, son of Emperor Frederick III and Eleanor of Portugal, was not buried in his famous tomb in the Hofkirche in Innsbruck. The Last Knight, as Maximilian I is also known, stipulated in his will that he wanted to be buried in Wiener Neustadt. Since the church in the castle is on the first floor, his tomb is located between heaven and earth.



The church that a hay cart can pass under

The only entrance to the castle during the reign of Maximilian I was located below St. George's Cathedral, so that carts could only pass under the church.

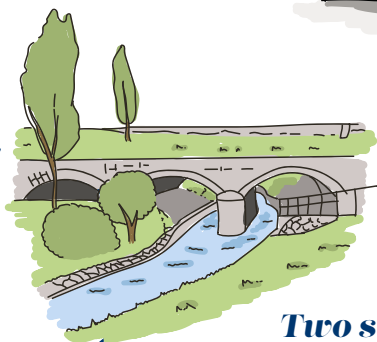
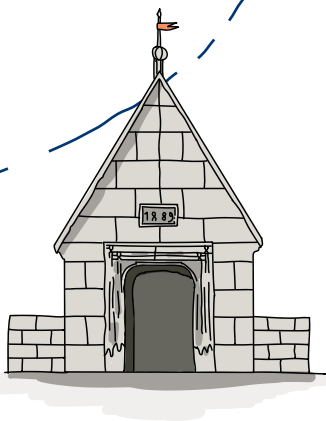


The church under the bridge

There used to be a bridge connecting the two cathedral towers so that the tower guard could observe the city in all directions. When a major fire raged through the city in 1834, the bridge was destroyed and a new one was built. In 1886, the towers, which had fallen into disrepair, were demolished. When the cathedral was rebuilt in 1892, the bridge was not rebuilt.

The House Without Nails

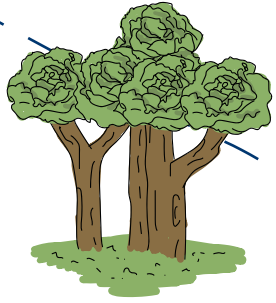
At the Vienna Gate stood a small house made of stone blocks, which was given the name “House Without Nails” because it was not held together by nails. It was a lock house built at the end of the 15th century, which was used to regulate the amount of water in the city moat. With the demolition of the city fortifications in the mid-19th century, the House without Nails also fell victim to the pickaxe.



Two streams flowing over each other

Two streams actually cross each other in the Wiener Neustadt urban area, namely the Warme Fischa and the Wiener Neustädter Canal. If you look closely at the map, you can see that a few hundred metres to the south, the Kehrbach and the Wiener Neustädter Canal also intersect. The canal is an artificial waterway that was originally planned to run from Vienna to Trieste. However, it was never built that far, and so the canal ends in Wiener Neustadt.

The salad that grows on trees

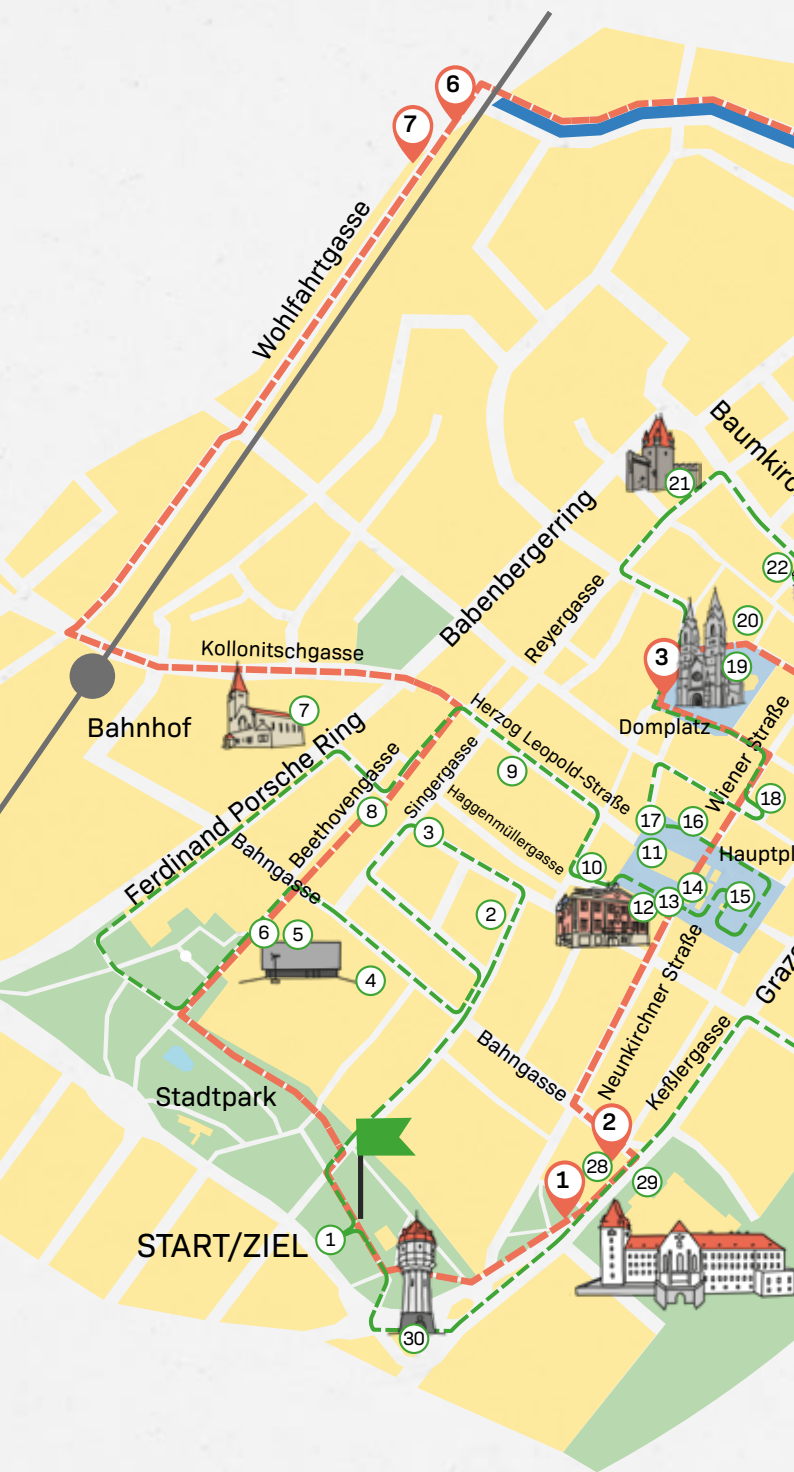


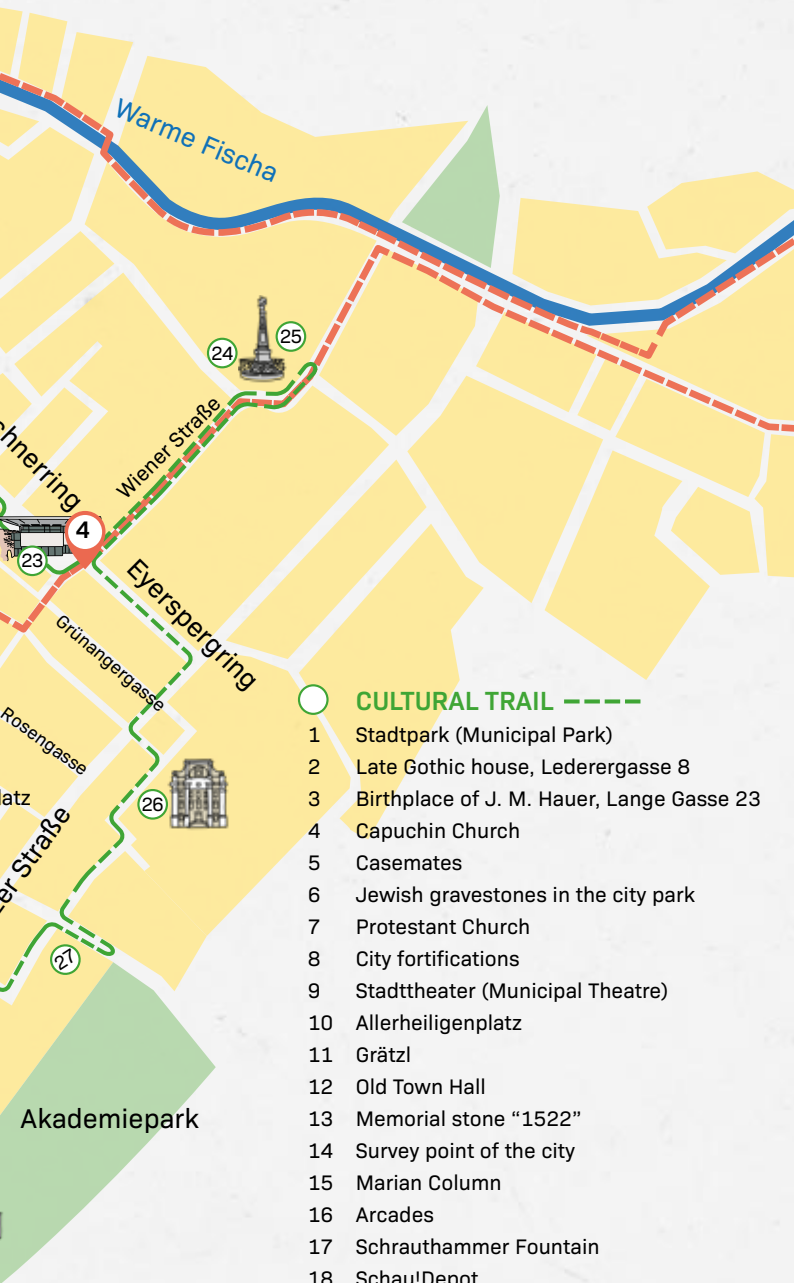
In today's Zehnerviertel district, there were wetlands around bodies of water such as the Himmelbach and Polierbach (streams), which served as acidic meadows, floodplains and also garden land. Fruit and vegetables were grown here. It is said that in the past, due to the "swampy" soil, salad was grown on tree trunks. Tree trunks were driven into the ground, and the salad grew on them.



The unstable ground

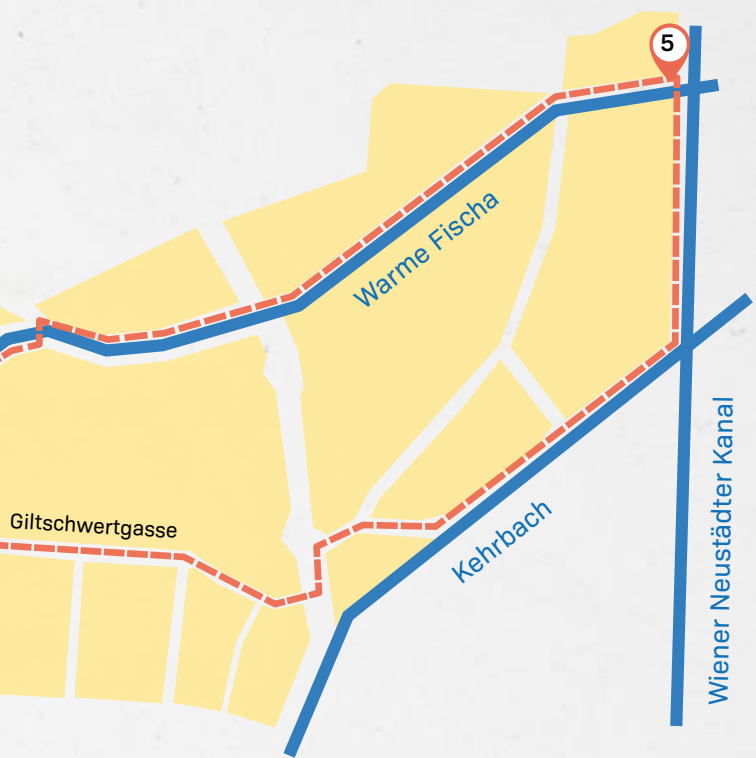
Wiener Neustadt was founded by Duke Leopold V of Babenberg and built as a border fortress against Hungary with the help of the ransom money for Richard the Lionheart. The historic city was built on dry, slightly sloping gravel areas. The damp, "shaky" ground of the river and floodplain area to the northwest lay outside the historic town. This area conveniently provided an ideal section for defending the town.





CULTURAL TRAIL - - - -

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MAXI & THE TIME MACHINE

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Cultural trail



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