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MUSIC
CONTACT
INTERNATIONAL

ADVENT SING

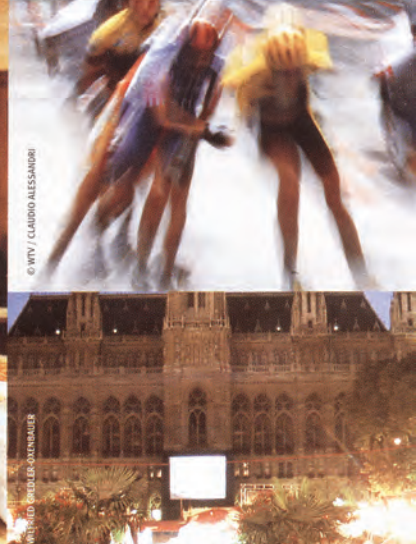
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ADVENT SING

VIENNA 2012

Wednesday Departure from North America

Depart in the afternoon or evening on your flight to Vienna, Austria. Dinner, snacks, and breakfast will be served on the flight.

Thursday Arrival in Vienna and Welcome Dinner

Your Music Contact International tour manager will greet you at the airport in Vienna and transfer with you to the Christmas-ornamented city center. Get your first glimpse of St. Stephen's Cathedral with its "lace-in-stone" spire – the symbol of Vienna, and of the Staatsoper (State Opera House). Walk along the elegant pedestrian street Kärntner Strasse lined with boutiques, bakeries, and famous Viennese cafés.

Tonight a Welcome Dinner is served for your choir in the hotel restaurant.

Friday

Concert in Senior Center or School

Begin your day with a guided city tour revealing Vienna's vast music history. Your expert guide will explain the sights along the Ringstrasse, the tree-lined boulevard encircling the center of Vienna. View the Hofburg Palace, City Hall, the Parliament building, and the regal Art History and Natural History Museums. Learn about Vienna's most famous piece of 20th century architecture, the Hundertwasser Haus.

Following the tour, enjoy Austrian specialties for lunch in the Rathauskeller Restaurant in Vienna's City Hall, along with other choirs from across Europe who are also in Vienna for the Advent Sing.

This afternoon adult choirs perform in local Senior Citizen Centers while youth choirs perform in Viennese schools. Enjoy time to meet the audience after your performance and to share season's greetings.

Saturday

Concert in Festival Hall of Vienna City Hall

This morning you may choose to explore the spectacular Schönbrunn Palace, once the summer residence of the Habsburg dynasty. The palace recalls the days of eighteenth-century Vienna when Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven called it home. Explore the spectacular Christmas Market in front of the Palace, where local vendors offer Christmas ornaments, Austrian food and drink, and small



hand-made gifts and crafts.

Alternatively this morning, you may want to visit one of Vienna's outstanding museums, such as the Museum of Art History, Museum of Natural History, or the Belvedere Palace.

This afternoon, your choir performs in the Festival Hall of the Vienna City Hall, where Strauss first presented the Waltz to the world! Before and after your choir's performance, enjoy the music of choirs from different countries.

Tonight visit an 800-year old wine village. Experience a traditional Austrian "Heurigen" dinner of grilled meats, sauerkraut and bread served family-style on long wooden tables, while a local musician plays the accordion and inspires guests to sing along.

Sunday Concert at Melk Abbey and Closing Ceremony

Start your day with a scenic drive to the town of Melk, on the banks of the Danube River. From miles away you will see the stunning baroque Melk Abbey perched on the hill above the town. Considered one of the most beautiful buildings in Austria, the Abbey dates back to 13th century. Visit the Abbey's courtyards, its ornate library, the spectacular marble hall, and the emperor's visiting quarters. The most breathtaking space in the Abbey is the magnificent Melk Abbey Church, which is also the venue for your afternoon performance. Every inch of the church is decorated in

sculptures and covered in gold leaf, and the acoustics of the church will leave your choir in awe. Also listen to the performances of other choirs participating in the International Advent Sing. This beautiful concert is highly anticipated each year by the local community and visitors to the region.

After returning to the hotel to refresh, all of the guest choirs meet at the Vienna City Hall for the official Closing Ceremony of the International Advent Sing. After the formalities of the ceremony, join together with all the guest choirs in singing Ode to Joy together.

Monday Departure

Enjoy your final Austrian breakfast before departing by motor coach to the Vienna's Airport for the return flight.

NOTE: Your choir will have a slightly different itinerary according to the exact time and location of each choir's performances. The specific itineraries will be established when the choir has registered and the concert schedule is established by Vienna. Therefore, your choir's exact itinerary will vary from the one described above, but the same events and performances will be included in your program.

ADVENT SING

V I E N N A 2 0 1 2

Dates

Each program runs from Thursday to Monday. In order to arrive in Vienna on Thursday, departures from North America are on Wednesday.

Thursday, November 22-Monday, November 26, 2012

Thursday, November 29 – Monday, December 3, 2012

Thursday, December 6 – Monday, December 10, 2012

Thursday, December 13 – Monday, December 17, 2012

Land Package Price

Please inquire with Music Contact International for prices.

Accommodations

4 nights in 4-star, centrally located hotel in double occupancy

Transportation

Transfers by private motor coach to and from the airport and the hotel in Vienna as well as all bus transportation to and from concerts and for the sightseeing tour as described in your itinerary

Meals

- Breakfast buffet daily at the hotel including beverages
- Dinner on the evening of arrival
- Lunch at the Vienna City Hall Rathauskeller
- Lunch in Melk
- Dinner in Gumpoldskirchen, including one beverage

Performance Opportunities

5 performance opportunities opportunities:

- Performance in the Festival Hall of the Vienna City Hall (an alternate venue will be used over the November 22- 26 dates which is pre-Advent)
- Performance in the Melk Abbey Church
- Performance in a Senior Citizen's Center or Viennese School (for youth choirs)
- Performance at a pedestrian zone in the city center or in front of Schönbrunn Palace
- Performance during a church service

Tour Manager

- Full-time Music Contact International Tour Manager to accompany your group during their entire stay, from arrival in Vienna to departure

Complimentary Places

- Two complimentary land packages covering services listed, based on double occupancy, based upon a minimum of 30 paying travelers, (31st and 32nd traveler's are complimentary).

Special Events & Local Guide

- Guided Sightseeing Tour of Vienna with a local guide
- Participation in the Closing Ceremony.
 - o Refreshments and beverages are provided.

Additional Materials

- Custom Traveler's Resource Website for your group, featuring a blog, photo gallery, your day-by-day itinerary, maps, helpful links, things to know before you go and more.
- Customized handbook for each person traveling with your choir including a detailed program and travel information.
- Keepsake DVD video of photos from your tour set to your group's music.
- Luggage tags and electrical adaptors.

COMPLIMENTARY DIRECTORS ORIENTATION TRIP

Thursday, July 12 – Monday, July 16, 2012

(departing North America on Wednesday, July 11th)

- For choirs is planning to attend the Advent Sing in Vienna, the Directors Orientation trip is complimentary from New York and includes air travel from New York to Munich and from Vienna to New York, accommodations (in double occupancy) for one night in Salzburg and three nights in Vienna. Most meals are also included.

Air Transportation

Please inquire with Music Contact International about the best fare and schedules for flights to Vienna from your preferred departure airport.

Extensions

Please inquire about our fantastic festival extension options to other European cities and allow Music Contact International to customize an extension program complementing your trip to Vienna. Additional performance opportunities may be arranged for your choir at venues like Salzburg Cathedral in Salzburg, Austria, at St. Nicholas Church in Prague, Czech Republic, and at St. Matthias Church or St. Stephen's Basilica in Budapest, Hungary – to name just a few exciting venues!



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