TOP 10 ATTRACTIONS



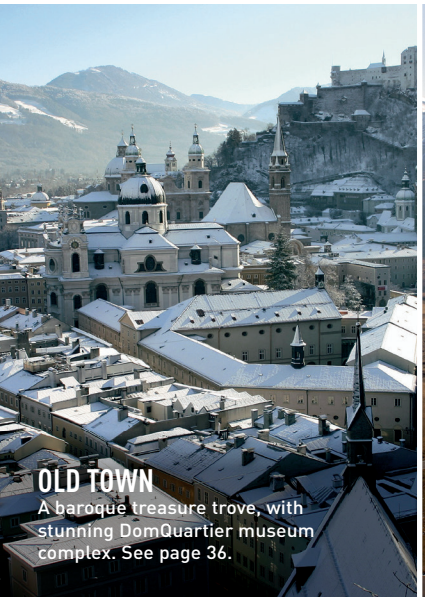
FESTUNG HOHENSALZBURG

The fairy-tale castle dominates the city it was built to defend. See page 30.



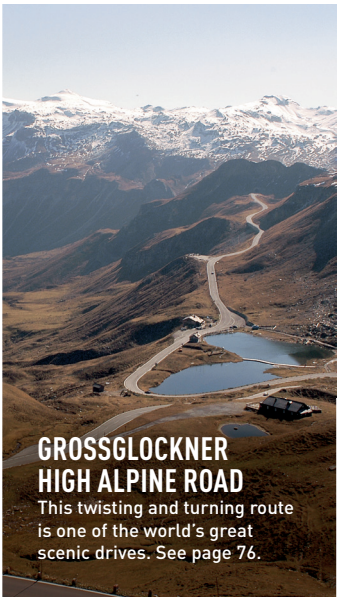
RESIDENZPLATZ

The most impressive square in the Old Town. See page 36.



OLD TOWN

A baroque treasure trove, with stunning DomQuartier museum complex. See page 36.



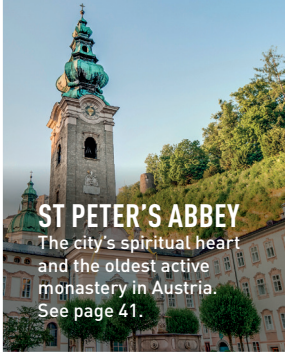
GROSSGLOCKNER HIGH ALPINE ROAD

This twisting and turning route is one of the world's great scenic drives. See page 76.



HELLBRUNN PALACE AND GARDENS

See the grand scale of living of Salzburg's prince archbishops. See page 62.



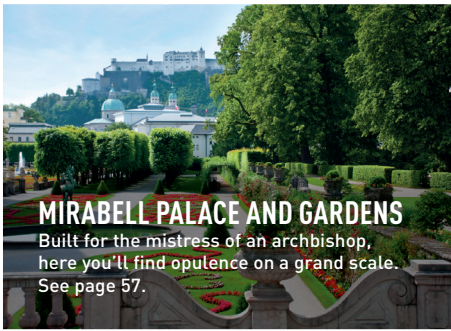
ST PETER'S ABBEY

The city's spiritual heart and the oldest active monastery in Austria. See page 41.



MOZART'S BIRTHPLACE

The house in which he was born is now a museum. See page 45.



MIRABELL PALACE AND GARDENS

Built for the mistress of an archbishop, here you'll find opulence on a grand scale. See page 57.



KÖNIGSSEE

Take a boat trip across the still waters of this beautiful Bavarian lake not far from Salzburg. See page 71.



MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

This showcase for contemporary art also offers a great view of the city. See page 50.

A PERFECT DAY





9.30am

Coffee

Even if you enjoy breakfast at your hotel, a second coffee or tea at the Café Bazar (see page 110) is the Salzburg way to start a day. Many writers have found inspiration in this smart though unpretentious café.

10.30am

The sound of Salzburg

Follow the footsteps of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to the Makartplatz, where, at house No. 8, you can climb the stairs to the 18th-century apartment of the Mozart family. Then stroll through Mirabell Gardens, seen in *The Sound of Music*.

11.30am

Invigorating heights

Cross the Salzach at Müllnersteg bridge and head for the pretty Müllner Kirche next to the huge Augustine Brewery. Lovely wooded paths wind south along the top of Mönchsberg, and scenic walking trails lead you down to the Museum of Modern Art.

12.15pm

Stunning art

The Museum of Modern Art (closed Mon) must not be missed by art lovers. Its restaurant, m32, is the place for an extravagant lunch break with a superb view from the terrace. Alternatively, descend to town in the Mönchsberg lift and stop at Humboldt Stubn (see page 106) for a traditional midday meal.

2.00pm

Dirndl and Mozartkugel

Getreidegasse (with Mozart's birthplace at No. 9), Judengasse and Goldgasse are shopping heaven. Meander through the lanes and you'll discover top brands in carefully renovated Gothic houses next to old shops selling Dirndl and other local costumes. Tiny Café Fürst (see page 109) at Alter Markt is *the* place to buy the original *Mozartkugel.*

IN SALZBURG





5.15pm

Squares and lanes

Savour the atmosphere of the cathedral and the surrounding squares. Stroll from Residenzplatz to Domplatz and then to Kapitelplatz to see the giant chessboard and golden sculpture, *Sphaera*. To the south is the cemetery of St Peter, with catacombs carved into the rock face. Walk up Festungsgasse (the Festungsbahn – funicular train – runs in summer until 10pm) to Stieglkeller to enjoy a local beer and panoramic city view.

4.30pm

360°

Step into the Salzburg of 1829 at the Panorama Museum, Residenzplatz 9. Telescopes reveal the detail in the 360° panorama painting of Salzburg and its surroundings. Then head for Mozartplatz and peep behind the ornate doors of house No. 4 into a pretty 18th-century yard with a garden.

9.00pm

High above

Traditional *Gasthäuser* like Zum Wilden Mann or Zum Fidelen Affen (New Town) are cosy places to enjoy chatty evenings among locals. To finish off a day with an exotic drink and breathtaking views, the rooftop terrace lounge of the Stein Hotel (see page 111) is the place to be.

7.00pm

Keynotes for dinner

The restaurant Triangel (see page 107),on Max Reinhardt Platz, is a favourite spot of musicians and singers – and a fine place for dinner. Or savour authentic Austrian fare at Zipfer Bierhaus (see page 107) nearby. The Mozart Dinner Concert at St Peter Stiftskulinarium offers the perfect evening entertainment for Mozart fans.

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INTRODUCTION

First time visitors to Salzburg are often awed by the consistent dignity and style of the city's baroque architecture. And rarely is a city so delicately worked into a dramatic natural setting. Rising above Salzburg's skyline and visible for kilometres around is the Festung Hohensalzburg, a fortress that sits atop the Mönchsberg mountain and watches over the city.

Below, the Altstadt (Old Town) is dominated by baroque towers and church spires, built by a succession of independent bishops from the 16th to the 18th centuries. This historic centre became a Unesco World Heritage Site in 1996, recognised as an important European ecclesiastical area.

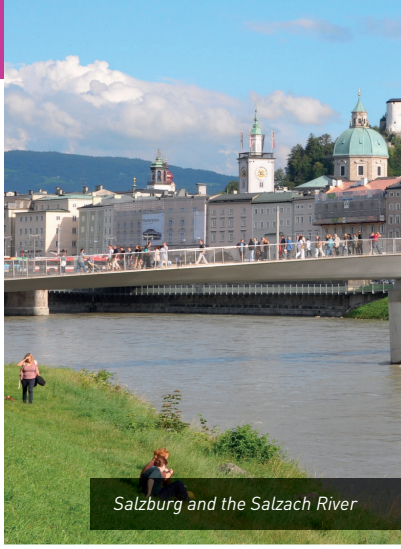
Salzburg is most famous for being the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and, of course, as the setting for *The Sound of Music*, but the city's wealth of culture extends beyond that. With Easter and Whitsun festivals, as well as Mozart Week in January and the internationally known Salzburg Festival in summer, this is one of the world's top festival cities, vying with Vienna as the cultural capital of Austria. Salzburg also hosts renowned Christmas markets in December, when the city is transformed into a winter wonderland, with ice sculptures, ice rinks, music, stalls and copious amounts of *Glühwein* (mulled wine).

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Salzburg is in the west of central Austria and close to the Bavarian border of Germany, in the northern foothills of the Alps. The city lies between two craggy hills, the Mönchsberg and the Kapuzinerberg, and is divided in two by the Salzach River. This was the life-blood of Salzburg for many centuries, used for transporting salt *(Salz)*, gold and copper mined in the mountains, and

bringing much wealth to the city during the Middle Ages. Only a few kilometres from the city centre lies the closest real mountain, the Untersberg (1,853m/ 6,078ft).

Salzburg is influenced by the alpine climate, and generally has cold, dry, snowy winters and warm summers with a considerable amount of rain. When it rains here, it really pours. The locals call it *Schnürlregen* – 'string rain'. Whatever the season, the weather can be turned on its head by the warm south wind known as the *Föhn* (see page 65).



Salzburg and the Salzach River

POLITICS AND RELIGION

Home to approximately 150,000 people, Salzburg is the capital of the province of the same name (pop. 530,000). It is one of Austria's youngest provinces, not incorporated into the country until 1816 (it was previously an independent ecclesiastical state). Austria is a federal state made up of nine provinces, each with its own local government. The Regional Assembly of Salzburg, elected every five years by proportional representation, consists of 36 members who have considerable influence over the politics and economics of the region.

While the role of the church in Salzburg is by no means what it was in the era of prince archbishops, the diocese continues to be one of the most important in the Roman Catholic Church, and the