

VIENNA & PRAGUE SPRING TOUR INFORMATION



**YOUTH MUSIC IN
VIENNA & PRAGUE**



**All the information you need for taking
part in Spring in Vienna & Prague**

VIENNA & PRAGUE: SPRING TOUR

We are all incredibly excited to be able to offer you our superb programme in Vienna and Prague.

Vienna is full of magnificent architecture, history, culture and above all music. It is considered one of the most musical cities in the world and the opportunity to experience this charming city must not be missed by young musicians.

Prague also famed for its musical heritage, is simply stunning. With its unique buildings, bridges and vistas it is a fairytale city waiting to be explored.

We have a splendid range of performance venues in which we can promote your concerts whether they be for concert band, orchestra, string

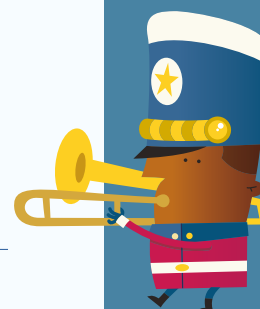
ensembles or choirs. We have also worked with the city governments in both cities to secure some wonderful outdoor opportunities for marching bands. The finest and most historic squares and thoroughfares have been given to us in which to display your musical talents.

Our programme is offered in the springtime – the very best time of year to visit Austria and the Czech Republic. We can arrange your performance tour at a time to suit you in the months of March and April. We cannot recommend this opportunity highly enough.

Do join us ...

Bob Bone, Festival Director,
tells you more





DESTINATION EVENTS: ABOUT US



The founder, organiser, and owner of Spring in Vienna and Prague is one of Europe's foremost event organisers – Destination Events Ltd.

Destination Events boasts a supremely accomplished, experienced and dedicated team of staff. They are expert not only in the production of world class events, but also in the delivery of superb hospitality arrangements and educational touring experiences for performers in their events. Meet key team members by visiting our [Destination Events](#) website.



Destination Events has found an excellent partner in the Youth Music of the World Organisation. With a dedicated team of experts and consultants, Youth Music source groups who are worthy to be considered for invitation to Spring in Vienna and Prague. Meet key members of the Youth Music team by visiting our [Youth Music](#) website.



VIENNA: PERFORMANCES



Read about a selection of concert venues for choirs, concert bands, orchestras and string ensembles.

[Peterskirche, or St. Peter's Church](#)

Dedicated to the Blessed Trinity and built on the site of Vienna's first Christian church around the 4th century, when Vienna was still a Roman settlement called Vindobona. Since then there have been two churches here, the medieval, three-naved Romanesque church, built in 792 and attributed to the Holy Roman Emperor, Charlemagne, and today's magnificent example of Baroque architecture, designed by Lukas von Hildebrandt and completed in 1733. It is amazing to think that a daily Holy Mass has been celebrated at St. Peter's for over 1500 years.

[Augustinerkirche, or St. Augustin's](#)

Founded in 1327 by Frederick I 'the Handsome', it is the second largest church in Vienna. By 1634 it had become the parish church of the Imperial Church of the Hapsburg ruling family and engulfed into the Hapsburg Palace complex. Over the years it has hosted many elaborate royal weddings and funerals including the marriage of the future Empress Maria Theresa, 1736, and Maria Louise to Napoleon Bonaparte, 1810. A visit to the crypt will reveal several royal hearts interned there.

St. Augustin is famous for its music connections including Composer Franz Schubert conducting his Mass in F major and Anton Bruckner's premiering his Mass in F minor written specially for this church. Today the church is known for hosting sacred music concerts.

[Community Church of Vienna](#)

The Vienna Community Church is situated steps away from Stephenplatz and is an ecumenical, interdenominational church founded in 1957 to serve the needs of Vienna's international English-speaking community. It is formally recognized by the Austrian Protestant Church and a member of the [American and Foreign Christian Union](#) (AFCU). Many of the congregation are musicians who regularly perform concerts at the church.

Marching bands have the opportunity to march through the centre of Vienna with further opportunities to stop and entertain the crowds with static performances on iconic squares, such as Stephansplatz.



PRAGUE: PERFORMANCES



Read about a selection of concert venues for choirs, concert bands, orchestras and string ensembles.

[St Nicholas Church, kostel sv. Mikuláše](#)

Located on the Old Town Square of Prague, this church has stood in the same place for over 800 years. The original Gothic parish church was built around 1273 by the townspeople themselves. Since then the church has had several uses including a Benedictine Monastery, a furniture store, a granary and an army garrison during World War I. Today's beautiful Baroque church was completed in 1739 and is considered one of Prague's architect, Kilián Ignác Dientzenhofer, greatest designs.

[The Czech Museum of Music, České muzeum hudby](#)

There has been a church on this site since the Gothic convent of the Magdalenites in 1329. Completed in 1709, today's Czech Baroque styled building was designed by Francesco Caratti and funded by Karel Michna, Prince of the Holy Roman Empire, whose coat of arms and family tomb are in the building. The museum houses a collection of around 700,00 items, most noteworthy are violin's by Špidlen and Amati, a piano by Franz Xaver Christoph, that Mozart played in his 1787 concert, and the original manuscripts of Czech composers Bedřich Smetana and Antonín Dvořák. There is a collection of early twentieth century Šediphones, two-headed brass instruments, popular with Russian military bands.

[Holy Saviour, kostel U Salvátora](#), has had an interesting life. It began as a Lutheran church consecrated in 1614. Over the last four centuries it has been a Catholic Mission and school, almost raised to the ground in the 'French' fire of 1689, rebuilt and used as Prague's Mint, making the countries coinage. In the 1990s, Holy Saviour was reconstructed back its former glory with the additions of the distinctive frescos depicting the Saviour, surrounded by angels, on the nave and five huge gothic windows which give the church its wonderful sense of space and light. The final stage of the renovation was the rebuilding of the organ, fondly known as the Bach instrument, for its delightful interpretations of Baroque to early Romantic music.

Marching bands have the opportunity to march through the centre of Prague starting in front of the Estates Theatre, one of the most beautiful historical theatre buildings in Europe. The band will have further static performance opportunities to entertain the crowds in central bustling areas like Prague's main commercial district, on Wenceslas Square, before arriving for a final performance, right in front of the Astronomical Clock, on the city's 12th century Staroměstské náměstí, or Old Town Square.



Hear more about the performances from Benita Wakefield, Production Director.



VIENNA & PRAGUE: PASSPORTS & VISAS



Before embarking on an international flight to Europe you must have a valid passport. The passport should have an expiry date of at least six months after the date you return to the United States. If you need to secure a passport for the first time, please ensure that you do so as soon as possible. Allow an absolute minimum of eight weeks to secure your passport.

Holders of full USA passports (American Citizens) do not need a visa to enter the Czech Republic or Austria.

Holders of non USA passports may need a visa to enter the Czech Republic and Austria, however you do not need to acquire visas for both borders. The Schengen area covers 26 countries ('Schengen States') without border controls between them, these include Austria and the Czech Republic, Schengen visas allow free passage through the Schengen zone. [Click here](#) for more information on which passport holders require a visa and how to obtain one. Visit the European Commission's website.

On occasions to secure a visa you will need a letter from Destination Events to confirm that you are a member of a performing group in the event and that you will be entering and leaving Austria and the Czech Republic on specific dates and that accommodation is provided for you whilst you are there. Destination Events can supply such a letter but need a minimum of 10 days notice if such a letter is required. Some visa applications can take several months so, if you do not have or are not eligible to have a full US passport, check if you need a visa and make your application as early as possible.

Non American Citizens staying in the USA on a Green Card should also check with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that they will be able to re-enter the USA without difficulty after their visit overseas. [Click here](#) to visit the website.

We are committed to helping any group members who need assistance in the visa process.



VIENNA & PRAGUE: FLIGHTS

Youth Music's staff and consultants at Performance Travel Ltd (PTL) are experts in arranging air travel from the USA to Vienna and Prague for groups invited to perform*.

It is a complicated business arranging air travel for what are often very large groups. PTL work tirelessly to secure the best blocks of seats with the best airlines and the most convenient schedules for performing groups.

Preferred carriers are British Airways, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Virgin Atlantic and United.

Economy class air travel will be arranged for you from your USA gateway into Vienna. You will then return from Prague to the USA at the end of your program†. One main meal and one snack meal will be served along with complimentary soft drinks. There are movies and audio entertainment on all long-haul transatlantic sectors. Flights may be multi-sectored.

Vienna & Prague do not have a time difference between them, in relation to America:

East Coast 6 hours
West Coast 9 hours

Check out our airlines:

[Air France](#)

[American Airlines](#)

[British Airways](#)

[Delta Air Lines](#)

[KLM](#)

[Lufthansa](#)



* Using the services of PTL to book your flights is not obligatory but is recommended

† The programme is reversible so it is possible to arrive in Prague and depart from Vienna

GETTING YOUR INSTRUMENTS & EQUIPMENT TO VIENNA & PRAGUE



One of the most beneficial and appreciated elements included in the Destination Events portfolio and provided as part of the Youth Music programme to Vienna & Prague, is the hassle free way that musical instruments and equipment are transported to Vienna & Prague and back to the USA.

- All instruments*, uniforms and essential equipment** are collected from your home base in the USA – school, college, university, or rehearsal centre – and air freighted to Vienna & Prague.
- Everything is delivered to your hotel just before you arrive and is placed in a secure storage facility exclusive to your group in your hotel.
- When all performances are complete, your consignment will be collected from your hotel and air freighted back to the USA and then delivered to your home base a few days after your return from Vienna & Prague.

What do you have to do?

- Complete a detailed and precise 'equipment and instrument' manifest from our template.
- Ensure you have hard/durable cases and boxes for your consignment.
- Pack and label your consignment accordingly.

It's so easy – let our Logistics Director, Joe Bone, tell you how.



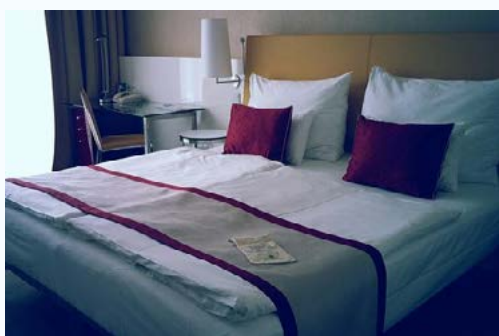
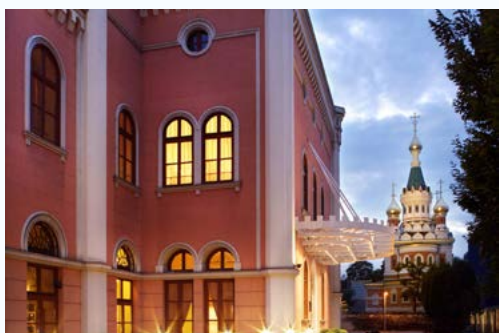
* We recommend that smaller instruments – piccolos, flutes and even clarinets are either taken by individual performers in their checked luggage or consolidated in to larger boxes of multiple instruments for inclusion in the freight consignment.

** For concert performers we provide timpani, a limited number of pit instruments, string basses etc. without charge, and so these items do not need to be shipped.





VIENNA & PRAGUE: ACCOMMODATION



The Spring in Vienna & Prague Programme makes sure that everyone has a great place to stay.

The hotels used are very carefully selected and regularly checked by staff to ensure that their standards are maintained.

All hotels used are categorised as superior first class, 4-star hotels. Standards of decor, furnishing and housekeeping are always high.

Most participants are accommodated two per room (two beds or one Queen or King bed). Most of the hotels can offer limited numbers of three bedded rooms.

- All bedrooms have private bathrooms (some with tubs and showers and some with walk in showers only).
- All rooms have flat screen TV's, direct dial phones and hair dryers.
- All hotels offer complimentary WiFi.
- All rooms have mini fridges (minibars destocked).
- All hotels offer meeting room facilities to our groups and most offer rehearsal facilities.
- All hotels provide locked and secure rooms for the storage of musical instruments and equipment.

Take a look at our current hotel portfolio:

Vienna:

[Imperial Riding School Renaissance Vienna](#)

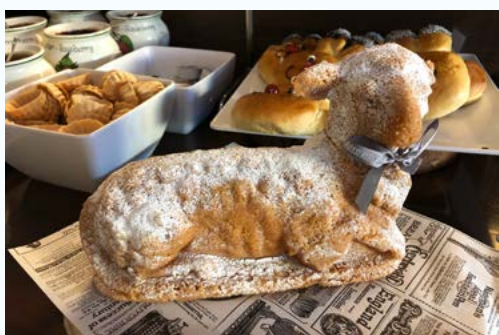
[Hilton Vienna Park](#)

Prague:

[Vienna House Andel's Prague](#)

[NH Prague](#)

VIENNA & PRAGUE: MEALS



The Spring in Vienna and Prague programme makes sure that participants don't go hungry.

Breakfast is included every day*. A buffet breakfast is offered to all groups in their hotel. Juices, fresh fruit, yogurts, bread and pastries, ham and cold meats, cheeses, plus always at least two hot items – eggs and either bacon or sausage. Hot drinks will include coffee, hot chocolate and hot teas.

Lunch is independent, the programme will be organised to make sure you are in areas with plenty of cafés and restaurants at lunch time.

Dinner is included every day. For some days this is a prearranged buffet or plated meal served in a banqueting room at the hotel. On other days, dinner will be organised in typical and historic restaurants serving local specialities.



* Breakfast is not included in the hotel on the day of arrival. There will have been an offering of a very light breakfast or snack on the plane before it lands. Breakfast is included at the hotel on the day of departure. If early flight time on departure day a packed breakfast will be prepared for you.

VIENNA & PRAGUE: SIGHTSEEING



It is very important to us that all participants get a fantastic impression of Vienna and Prague on their trip.

We start by securing great hotels, sourcing quality meals and, of course, providing the greatest stages in the world on which to perform.

Then our team of vastly experienced itinerary planners and hosts work to create and deliver an excellent collection of tours, visits and opportunities that give, in a short time, a terrific overview and introduction to the history, rich culture and diverse and welcoming population.

There are an array of motor coach tours with interesting and interactive guides. Our coaches all have 'state-of-the-art' facilities with panoramic windows. Our coach operator carries \$15 million of liability insurance so you are always safe and protected whilst you are on board. Our guides are chosen carefully and content is tailored to you.

VIENNA

Vienna Tour: a guided coach and walking tour of Vienna around the famous [Ringstrasse](#), with its magnificent buildings including the [Winter Residence](#) of the Habsburgs, the [Parliament](#), the [Burgtheatre](#), the [University](#), the [Votivkirche](#) and the beautiful [Karlskirche](#).

Vienna State Opera House: a guided tour of the Opera House where you will be taken behind the scenes of the theatre and hear many interesting facts about the building's history and architecture. You will see everything from the foyer and great staircase to the state rooms, auditorium and stage.

Hofburg Palace: a guided tour of the Hofburg Palace, the former imperial palace located in Heldenplatz (Heroes Square) in the centre of Vienna and built in the 13th century. The palace has been the seat of power of the Habsburg dynasty rulers, and today is the official residence and workplace of the President of Austria.

OR

Schönbrunn Palace: a guided tour around Schoenbrunn Palace, one of the most important architectural, cultural, and historical monuments in Austria. The history of the palace and its vast gardens spans over 300 years, reflecting the changing tastes and interests of successive Habsburg monarchs. The Palace is Baroque in style with 1,141 rooms including the magnificent apartments of Maria Theresa as well as the parlours and apartments of Imperial couple Franz Joseph and Sisi.





PRAGUE

Prague Tour: a guided tour of Prague old town. You will have the chance to see [Old Town Square](#), locally known as Staromák and the [Astronomical clock](#) – the world's oldest working clock. The tour will continue past the [Tyn Church](#), [Prague University](#) and [Jewish quarter](#) before finishing at the river, where you will be able to see the best view over the river of [Prague Castle](#).

Karlštejn Castle: a guided tour around Karlštejn Castle, built by Czech King and Roman Emperor Charles IV in 1348 as a place for safekeeping the royal treasures, especially Charles's collection of holy relics and the coronation jewels of the Roman Empire. On the tour you will have the chance to visit the Courtier's Hall, the Hall of Knights, the chapel of St. Nicholas, the Chapter Deanery, the Royal Bedroom, the Audience and Banqueting Halls, the Hall of Ancestors, the Treasury and Jewels Hall, and the castle prison.

OR

Prague Castle: a guided tour exploring the Castle and Castle District of Prague. The Prague Castle complex dates from the 9th century. It is the official office of the President of the Czech Republic. The castle was a seat of power for kings of Bohemia, Holy Roman Emperors, and Presidents of Czechoslovakia. The Bohemian Crown Jewels are kept within a hidden room inside it.

Český Krumlov: a guided tour around the picturesque UNESCO World Heritage city of Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic where you will have the chance to see the Old Town Square with its Renaissance and Baroque architecture, as well as the stunning castle and chateau complex above the [Vltava River](#).



VIENNA & PRAGUE: SIGHTSEEING CONTINUED



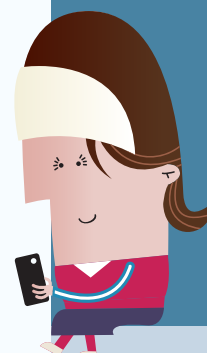
If you have added a day to your programme, a day trip to Salzburg can be arranged for you.

[Salzburg](#), an Austrian city on the border of Germany, with views of the [Eastern Alps](#), located 180 miles from Vienna. The city is divided by the [Salzach River](#), with medieval and baroque buildings of the [Altstadt](#) (Old City) on its left bank, and the 19th-century [Neustadt](#) (New City) on its right bank. Salzburg is famous for being the birthplace of Mozart and the setting for parts of the musical 'The Sound of Music'. It is also a student city, with three universities.

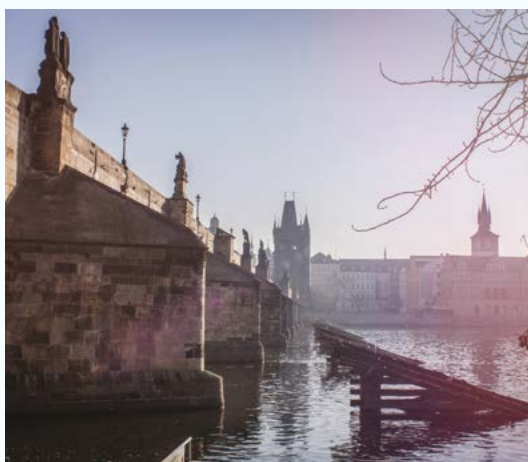
Salzburg Tour: a guided tour around [Salzburg's Old Town](#) taking you past the [Mirabell Gardens](#), the [Marionetten Theatre](#) and along [Getreidegasse](#) the main shopping area of the city. The tour will also include a visit to number 9 Getreidegasse, where the Mozart family lived from 1747 to 1773 and where Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born on January 27 1756. Today the house is a museum, featuring his childhood, a selection of his violins, concert violins and his pianoforte.



Hear more about the programme from Lizzie Bone, Operations Director



VIENNA & PRAGUE: UNIQUE SERVICE



We have been organising educational performance travel programmes for a long time and have developed what we consider to be the very best team of professionals to ensure that your programme in Vienna and Prague is as good as it can possibly be.

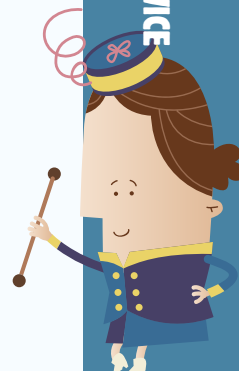
A little earlier we looked at the great Destination Events team who organise the event and your hospitality arrangements. If you want to take another look just [click here](#).

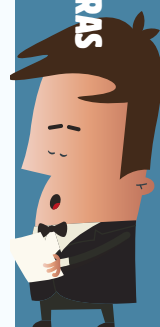
Likewise, you are in really good hands with the Youth Music/Performance Travel teams in the USA and UK. Again if you want a reminder of who they all are just [click here](#).

So you have great people taking care of you, but what else makes our service so special?

Our Group Organiser's Guide. An absolutely invaluable manual detailing every step that we need you to take to prepare for your group's participation. This guide is delivered to you electronically six months before you travel. Regular updates are sent as modifications and improvements are made.

Site inspection. It is imperative that every group is represented by its leader/s on a fixed date site inspection programme in Vienna and Prague. On this site inspection there are a series of venue tours, hotel tours, sightseeing and meetings that prepare you for leading your group.





VIENNA & PRAGUE: IMPORTANT EXTRAS



For performers:

All performers are presented with a specially struck medal to acknowledge their contribution in Spring in Vienna & Prague.

For supporters:

Spring in Vienna & Prague welcomes family members, friends, alumni and supporters of all performing groups and offers them the same arrangements as for the performers.

All non-performing members of your group will have a free place at all performances.



VIENNA & PRAGUE: SECURITY & PEACE OF MIND



A comprehensive travel insurance policy is included for everyone on the performance tour programme to Spring in Vienna & Prague.

Coverage includes:

- cancellation (in some eventualities)
- medical and emergency expenses
- personal accident
- baggage
- delayed baggage

This protects the vast majority of the performance tour cost should you be forced to cancel for a significant number of reasons.



VIENNA & PRAGUE: NEXT STEPS



Youth Music's Directors of International Participation, along with their consultants, are constantly scouring the Americas for groups we would like to invite to take part.

If you are contacted by a member of the Youth Music team and are interested in going a step further, then Youth Music will ask to put your name before the steering committee for approval. If you secure this approval, Destination Events will write to tell you that you have been accepted for invitation.

You will then enter into negotiations with Youth Music who will produce for you a document entitled 'Offer of Performance Tour'. This encapsulates your discussion with Youth Music, listing out the dates that you would travel and the gateway you would travel from, the number of places we can offer you, an exact listing of performance, hospitality and educational touring features, a cost and a payment schedule. The final page of this document requests that you secure signatures from all relevant parties that you may accept the offer.

Once accepted, the Offer Document is returned to Youth Music/Performance Travel who then create a contract based on the contents of the Offer. Once you have signed and returned the contract you will then be contacted to set up a date for the presentation of the official invitation. This will be undertaken during a visit to your group in the USA by one of the Senior or Principal Members of Destination Events and Youth Music. You are not deemed invited and the contract is invalidated, if you do not receive the official invitational visit.





**YOUTH MUSIC IN
VIENNA & PRAGUE**



Destination Events

No 1 Turnham Green Terrace Mews

Chiswick, London W4 1QU

Tel: +44 (0)20 3275 0190

email: info@destinationevents.com