Vienna: Mozart, Strauss and DJ Sounds

10,000 music lovers attend music events[1] of all genres and sizes in Vienna night after night. In keiner anderen Stadt haben so viele Komponist:innen gewirkt – Mozart, Mahler, Haydn, Beethoven und der Walzerkönig Johann „Schani“ Strauss The Vienna Philharmonic, the Vienna Boys’ Choir, and the Vienna Girls’ Choir set the standard at the world's highest level, while the Vienna State Opera and the Golden Hall at the Musikverein are among the world’s finest performance venues. Traditional strengths endure to this day – the electronic sound pioneered by local musicians and leading DJs enjoys worldwide popularity.

Vienna is the world capital of music: every year, the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra’s New Year’s Concert delights around 50 million TV viewers in more than 150 countries. The Vienna Boys’ Choir and its female counterpart, the Vienna Girls’ Choir, have enjoyed success on every continent and also perform in Vienna. And the Vienna Symphony Orchestra are making quite a name for themselves. The city has two concert halls of international standing, the Vienna Music Society (Musikverein) and the Konzerthaus. The city is also the ideal setting for a high-caliber range of festivals, whether it be ancient music at Resonanzen, contemporary compositions at Wien Modern, the Vienna Festival or the Summer Nights concert by the Vienna Philharmonic. The stars of tomorrow can be seen at 1,300 events of the mdw – University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna – one of the best music universities in the world.

The world-famous Vienna State Opera offers performances 300 nights a year and a different billing virtually every day. The MusikTheater an der Wien has established a name for itself as “the other” venue for opera and is noted for premieres of compositions ranging from the baroque to the contemporary. Meanwhile, the Volksoper presents classic operas, lively operettas, ballets, and numerous musicals in German. Musical fans can also enjoy “Maria Theresia – The Musical” at the Ronacher and “Beauty and the Beast” at the Raimund Theater. Summertime entertainment is celebrated every evening on the square in front of the City Hall - with free music films and a wide range of culinary delights.

Numerous music festivals are dedicated to specific genres just waiting to be discovered: Das Akkordeon-Festival lässt über die Vielseitigkeit des Instruments staunen, der Vienna Blues Spring ist das weltweit längste Blues-Festival, die Afrika Tage Wien präsentieren Weltmusik und Wien im Rosenstolz das Wienerlied. The KlezMore Festival is all about Jewish klezmer music, the Vienna Jazzfloor invites visitors to 130 concerts in nine of the city’s clubs, while Voice Mania is totally committed to a-cappella music.

[1] Source: Vienna Tourist Board, February 16, 2026. Based on an aggregated calculation for a calendar year, Vienna sees approximately 10,400 to 11,800 visitors per day at music events. A realistic average is about 11,000 visitors per day. Analysis generated using ChatGPT.

Such a musical and creative atmosphere is an ideal breeding ground for contemporary music: clubs such as Flucc, Pratersauna and Grelle Forelle play the electronic sounsd of local musicians such as Wolfram, Ogris Debris and HVOB, who are also making waves on the international scene. The musical styles are more diverse than ever: A new generation of German-language pop has also long since established itself with Bilderbuch, Wanda and others.

The pop festival brings the latest trends in Austrian music to the stage on Karlsplatz. The soundtrack for the Gürtel Nightwalk is laid down by bands at the vanguard of the indie and electronic scene. The Danube Island Festival, Europe's largest open-air festival with free admission, pulls in well over two million visitors each year with acts from a host of genres on the billing. Vienna's club festival Waves Vienna presents more than 100 live acts ranging from alternative to electronic to Rock over three days. www.vienna.info

“Music” facts and figures

- Vienna State Opera: a rotating program on 300 evenings each year; seat occupancy rate for 2024/25: 99.86% (Source: Vienna State Opera Annual Report 2024/25)
- Vienna Philharmonic New Year’s Concert: the global broadcast now reaches approximately 50 million viewers in over 150 countries via TV and streaming. (Source: https://www.wienerphilharmoniker.at/de/neujahrskonzert)
- The Vienna Boys Choir: the oldest boys choir in the world (founded in 1498). The training and choral traditions of the Vienna Boys Choir have been inscribed on the UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Austria. 90 active Viennese choristers make up four concert choirs that perform in front of almost half a million people at roughly 300 events every year. The Vienna Girls Choir was formed in 2004, and in June 2024 they were awarded the European Culture Prize jointly with the Vienna Boys Choir. (Source: Vienna Boys Choir)
- The mdw – University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna was ranked 6th in the QS World University Rankings for Performing Arts | Top Universities . (Source: https://www.topuniversities.com/university-subject-rankings/performing-arts)
- Mozart’s only preserved apartment in Vienna at Mozarthaus Vienna
- No other city was home to so many composers: Mozart, Mahler, Haydn, Beethoven, Strauss, Schubert…
- Most successful German-language musical, “Elisabeth,” with 12.7 million viewers in 14 countries (Source: Vereinigte Bühnen Wien)
- The unique Wienerlied: Vienna is the only city with its own musical genre
- Vienna Blues Spring: The world’s longest-running blues festival, March 20 to May 31 every year (Source: viennabluesspring.org)
- Danube Island Festival: Europe’s largest open-air festival with free admission (Source: Danube Island Festival)
- Film festival on Rathausplatz: Europe’s largest cultural and culinary festival with more than a hundred thousand visitors every year (Source: https://filmfestival-rathausplatz.at/)
- ImPulsTanz: Europe’s biggest festival for contemporary dance (Source: www.impulstanz.com)
- Vienna Festival: Europe’s most significant crossover festival with profound socio-political influence. 2026: 219,178 visitors (Source: www.festwochen.at/festwochen-in-zahlen)
- Every year, more than 600,000 visitors take to the dance floor at balls during Vienna’s ball season. 32 percent of visitors come from abroad. (Source: www.wko.at/wien/news/wiener-ballsaison-2025-26-erreicht-neue-rekorde)

- 623 bars, dance clubs and discos (Source: Vienna Chamber of Commerce, Annual Statistics 2024)
- Vienna also enjoys a reputation internationally as an outstanding city of music: at 25%, “attending music events” ranks 10th among the top activities enjoyed by visitors to Vienna. (Source: T-MonA Visitor Survey 2024/25)