

## Vienna: Mozart, Strauss and DJ Sounds

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**Every night in Vienna around 10,000 music fans are treated to live classical music, something that is simply unheard of in any other city in the world. Each year the Vienna concert schedule includes more than 15,000 events of various sizes and genres. No other city has been home to so many composers — Mozart, Mahler, Haydn, Beethoven and Johann Strauss, the king of the Viennese waltz, all worked in the city. The Vienna Philharmonic and the Vienna Boys' Choir set the international tone, while the State Opera House and the Golden Hall at the Musikverein are among the world's leading venues. Traditional strengths endure to this day — the Vienna sound pioneered by local DJs enjoys worldwide popularity.**

Vienna is the world's capital of music — the Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Concert holds millions of television viewers from 50 different nations in thrall, the Vienna Boys' Choir are popular the world over and the Vienna Symphony Orchestra never fails to attract attention. Vienna has two world class concert halls, the Musikverein and the Konzerthaus. The city is the ideal setting for commemorative years such as the 2010/11 Mahler Years and a high-caliber range of festivals covering everything from ancient music at Resonanzen or contemporary compositions at Wien Modern. OsterKlang, Vienna Spring Festival, the Vienna Festival and the Vienna Jazz Festival are among the other program highlights.

The Vienna State Opera is prized for its exceptional acoustics. There are performances almost 300 nights a year and a different billing virtually every day. The Theater an der Wien has established a name for itself as „the other“ venue for opera. New premieres each month — from baroque to contemporary — are a hit among opera-goers. Meanwhile at the Vienna Chamber Opera, the focus is on rarities. The Volksoper presents classic operas in German, musicals and lively operettas. In the summer there is open-air opera in the imperial ambience of Schönbrunn Palace. At the Raimund Theater, 20 songs by Udo Jürgens delight audiences in the musical “Ich war noch niemals in New York”. At the Ronacher, the cult musical “Dance of the Vampires” hits the stage. And in summer, classical music broadcasts are shown on City Hall Square, where you can also sample the diverse culinary specialties on offer.

Such creative musical surroundings make Vienna a hotbed for contemporary musicians. Clubs such as Flex, Fluc, B72 and Chelsea have long been home to the Vienna sound — the unique remixes created by local DJs launched the hugely successful international career of Viennese duo Kruder & Dorfmeister. The best prerequisites for permanent partying — at dance temples like Passage, Volksgarten, Pratersauna and Praterdome, not to mention the legendary U4.

The sound:frame festival provides a platform for performances and live acts by avant-garde visual artists. 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 party — pulls in some three million visitors each year, with acts from a host of genres on the billing. **More: [www.vienna.info](http://www.vienna.info)**