



AMERICAN EXPEDITIONS

Traveler's Resource Website



Celebrate Willem's 90th and Discover Austria!



SALZBURG - VIENNA

MAY 4 - MAY 13, 2025

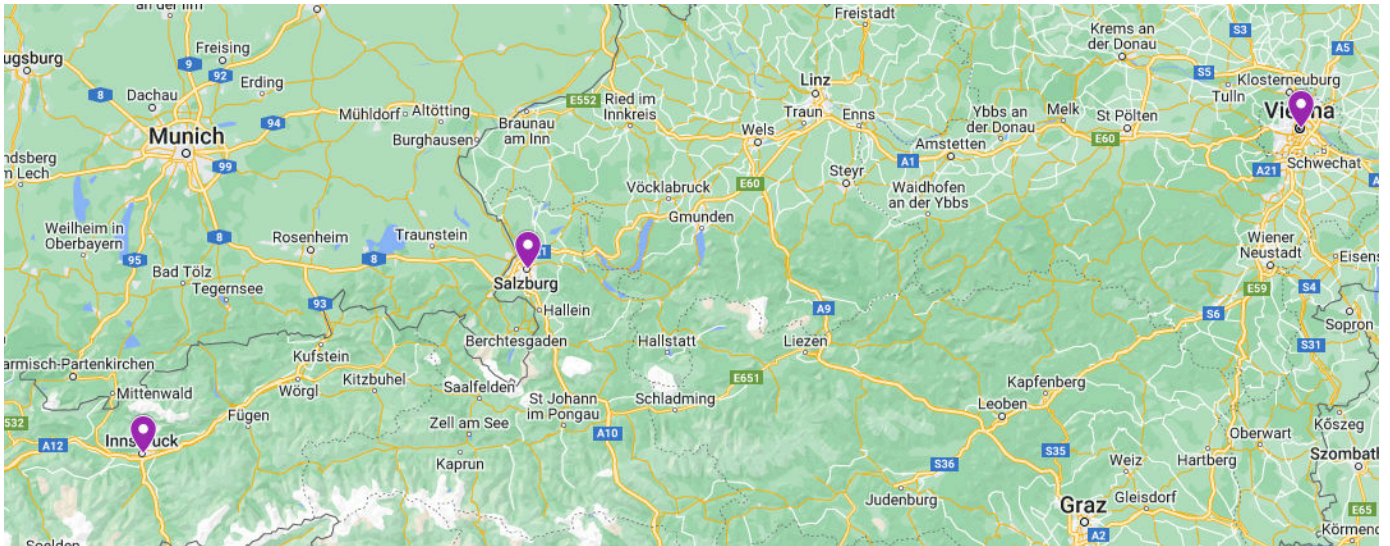
Open the Menu bar by clicking on the icon in the upper left corner.

[Click Here for Printable Itinerary](#)

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Discover Austria with NHPBS with Willem Lange!

Willkommen! New Hampshire PBS and American Expeditions invite you to explore Austria with Willem Lange as we celebrate his 90th birthday!

Austria, a country renowned for its stunning landscapes, rich cultural heritage, and commitment to sustainability, offers an enriching experience that promises to captivate your senses and inspire your spirit. Austria is a cultural gem, home to some of the world's most famous composers, artists, and writers. Experience nature's grandeur along the Danube and as you make your way through the Alps. A leader in sustainable tourism and environmental preservation, witness firsthand Austria's commitment to preserving its natural beauty.

Your journey begins in **Salzburg**, where you will explore the birthplace of Mozart, and experience old world charm set amidst majestic mountains and crystal-clear lakes. Continue to **Vienna** via Melk Abbey, with a scenic Danube boat ride to Dürnstein. In Vienna, explore the city's highlights, including the Belvedere Museum, the Vienna State Opera House, and a concert at Sala Terrena.

This trip combines Austria's iconic landmarks, stunning landscapes, and cultural treasures for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



PROPOSED TOUR ITINERARY



DAY 1 | Sunday, May 4

DEPART FOR AUSTRIA

The **NHPBS tour of Austria** starts with a direct flight from **Boston** to **Munich**. Refer to your **AE tour handbook** for tips on making the journey smooth and comfortable.





DAY 2 | Monday, May 5

WELCOME TO AUSTRIA

Welcome to **Austria**! Your **American Expeditions tour manager** will be waiting to greet you in the arrivals area of the **Munich Airport**.

Board your private motorcoach and take the scenic drive to **Salzburg**.

Salzburg's scenic Alpine backdrop, baroque architecture and incredibly preserved historic center have earned it a UNESCO heritage site title. Famed composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart called the city home.

Check in to your hotel to rest and refresh before dinner.

Tonight, the **NHPBS Discover Austria with Willem Lange** kicks off with a **welcome dinner** at a **traditional restaurant** where you will indulge in a delicious local specialties such as Wiener Schnitzel and Apfelstrudel for dessert. Enjoy the lively atmosphere and authentic experience.





DAY 3 | Tuesday, May 6

SIGHTSEEING IN SALZBURG

Enjoy **breakfast** in the hotel dining room this morning before departing on a **guided walk through Old Town**, including sights such the breathtaking **Mirabell Palace and Gardens** and **Hohensalzburg Fortress**; one of Europe's most impressive medieval castles.

Start at the enchanting **Mirabell Gardens**. Created in the early 18th century, the gardens are a stunning example of Baroque landscaping. Wander through the geometrically designed flower beds and admire the grand fountains. Don't miss the Pegasus Fountain, famously featured in "The Sound of Music." Next, make your way to **Mozart's Birthplace** on Getreidegasse, where Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in 1756. Your guide will offer a fascinating glimpse into the life and times of the musical genius.

This afternoon and evening are free to explore Salzburg at your leisure. Perhaps go on a Sound of Music tour and see the sights associated with the famous von Trapp family and the film that immortalized them, *The Sound of Music*.





DAY 4 | Wednesday, May 7

EXCURSION TO THE SALZKAMMERGUT REGION & HALLSTATT

This morning after **breakfast**, depart for a day trip to **Hallstatt**.

Experience the breathtaking beauty of the **Salzkammergut region** as you visit the picturesque village of Hallstatt, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, known for its serene lake, charming alpine architecture, and historic salt mines.

Get your first glimpse of the town with a **local guide**. Visit the Market Square and admire the pastel-colored buildings and lively atmosphere. Wander the charming streets lined with traditional alpine houses, shops, and cafes. Then, glide across the tranquil waters of Hallstätter See, on a **boat ride** surrounded by the dramatic Dachstein mountains and quaint alpine houses.

Enjoy stunning mountain vistas and immerse yourself in the natural and cultural splendor of Austria's most scenic lakeside destination before returning to your hotel in Salzburg this afternoon.

The evening is free to spend at your leisure.





DAY 5 | Thursday, May 8

EXCURSION TO UNTERSBERG

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Salzburg before embarking on a scenic drive along the Austrian countryside to nearby **Untersberg Mountain**.

Upon arrival, board the **Untersberg Cable Car**, which provides a smooth and accessible ride to the summit. The ride offers breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape. Once at the top, take some time to enjoy the panoramic views of the Alps and the Salzburg basin. Relax and breathe in the fresh mountain air as you enjoy **tea and cake** in the restaurant at the summit.

Descend and meet your bus to return to your hotel in Salzburg. The late afternoon and evening are free to enjoy at your leisure.





DAY 6 | Friday, May 9

HOHENSALZBURG FORTRESS | MOZART DINNER

Enjoy **breakfast** and the morning at your leisure.

In the afternoon, meet your local guide and take the **funicular to Hohensalzburg Fortress**. The funicular takes you up the Festungsberg hill to one of Europe's largest and best-preserved medieval castles. Once at the top, you'll be rewarded with panoramic views of Salzburg and the surrounding Alps. There will be time to explore the fortress before returning to town via funicular.

This evening, join your group to enjoy a **special dinner and night of Mozart's music** at the **baroque hall of St. Peter's monastery**. Enjoy your meal while listening to live performances of Mozart's music by musicians in period costumes.





DAY 7 | Saturday, May 10

SALZBURG TO VIENNA | BOAT CRUISE & MELK ABBEY TOUR

After **breakfast**, check out of your hotel and load your baggage on your motorcoach and head to the picturesque town of **Melk**, located on the banks of the Danube River. You'll pass vineyards, abbeys, and forests of the countryside.

Upon arrival, enjoy **lunch** together at the restaurant on site followed by a **guided tour of the Abbey**. Considered one of the most beautiful buildings in Austria, the stunning baroque **Melk Abbey** is perched on the hill above town. The most breathtaking space is the magnificent **Melk Abbey Church**, decorated in sculptures and covered in gold leaf. The sheer beauty and outstanding acoustics of the space will leave your choir in awe.

Following your tour of Melk, head to the pier where you will embark on a **cruise along the Danube** from **Melk** to **Dürnstein** where you will meet your motorcoach and continue to Vienna.

Check in to your centrally located hotel and embark on an orientation walk your American Expeditions tour manager. The rest of the evening is free to explore independently.



DAY 8 | Sunday, May 11

SIGHTSEEING IN VIENNA

Following **breakfast** at the hotel, start your day with a **guided panoramic tour of Vienna**. Gain an introduction to Austria's glorious capital. See the city's most famous piece of 20th-century architecture the **Kunst Haus Wien**. See **St. Stephan's Cathedral**, known for its "lace-in-stone" spire, this impressive 13th-century gothic edifice has become the symbol and focal point for old-world Vienna. Just next door is **Mozart's apartment** at the Figaro House, so named because it was here that Mozart composed one of his most famous works, *The Marriage of Figaro*. Stroll down **Kärntner Strasse, Graben, and Kohlmarkt**, bustling pedestrian streets lined with boutiques, bakeries, and famous Viennese coffee houses. See the impressive **Staatsoper**, or State Opera House, **Stallburg Palace**, home of the world-famous **Spanish Riding School**, and the **Hofburg**, a sprawling palace that was once the primary residence of the ruling Habsburg family.

End your tour at the **Belvedere Palace**, renowned for its stunning Baroque architecture and extensive art collection. Inside, you can explore masterpieces by Klimt, Schiele, and Kokoschka, among others. The highlight is Gustav Klimt's iconic "The Kiss," along with other significant works that provide insight into Austrian art history.

Following the visit, take time to enjoy lunch on your own and explore the beauty of Vienna.

This evening, **enjoy a show at the Sala Terrena** (*pending availability*), a beautifully adorned chamber where Mozart himself performed, featuring intricate frescoes and stucco work that reflect its historical and artistic significance. Listen to a professional quartet perform the music of Mozart dressed in 18th century attire!

Afterwards, transfer back to your hotel for the evening.





DAY 9 | Monday, May 12

SIGHTSEEING IN VIENNA

Today, visit the **Vienna State Opera House** which combines architectural grandeur with a rich operatic heritage. Enjoy a **behind the scenes tour** with a knowledgeable guide who will share information about the opera house's construction, its Neo-Renaissance design by architects August Sicard von Sicardsburg and Eduard van der Nüll, and its opening in 1869 with Mozart's "Don Giovanni." Gain insight into the production process, from rehearsals to the final performance, and how the opera house operates on a daily basis.

Next, head to the **Spanish Riding School** for a unique glimpse into Vienna's equestrian traditions. During the morning practice sessions, you can watch the Lipizzaner stallions perform their intricate routines. The elegant maneuvers and precision of the riders showcase centuries of training and discipline, offering a fascinating look at this living heritage.

Following your visit, there will be free time for lunch before departing in the late afternoon for Gumpoldskirchen, a charming wine village outside of Vienna.

For your farewell dinner, visit the **800-year-old wine village of Gumpoldskirchen**, where you will **dine on a traditional Austrian "Heurigen" dinner** of grilled meats, sauerkraut, and bread, served family-style on long wooden tables. A local musician strolling through the restaurant inspires guests to sing along. It's a perfect time to reminisce about the tour and celebrate our friend, Willem's milestone birthday!





DAY 11 | Tuesday, May 13

RETURN HOME

This morning, check out of your hotel and depart for Anchorage International Airport.

The **NHPBS Discover Austria with Willem Lange** ends with a flight from **Vienna** back to **Boston** via Frankfurt. Heartfelt goodbyes are exchanged at the airport, and your group is sent off with a fond, “Thank you for connecting our world through your music. Until we meet again!”

The image shows the exterior of a yellow building with a grid of white-framed windows. The windows are arranged in four rows. The top row has four windows, with the second one from the left open. The second row has four windows, with the second and fourth ones open. The third row has four windows, with the second and fourth ones open. The fourth row has four windows, all of which are closed and have black metal grilles. In the center of the second row, between the second and third windows, is a decorative white crest with a golden lyre. The text 'Mozarts Geburtshaus' is written in a white, cursive font across the middle of the facade, between the second and third rows of windows. At the bottom left, there is a decorative stone archway with a relief of a woman's head. At the bottom center, there is a dark doorway with a decorative arch above it. At the bottom right, there is another decorative archway.

Mozarts Geburtshaus



Your Tour INCLUDES:

COMPLIMENTARY TRAVEL - *you deserve it!*

- 3 complimentary land and air packages based on a minimum of 20 paying travelers

FLIGHTS - *professionally managed with group airfare*

- Roundtrip flights from Boston to Munich and Vienna to Boston

Our flight team handles custom flight requests and upgrades.

ACCOMMODATIONS - *thoughtfully selected to match group needs*

8 nights in centrally located 4 star hotels, as follows:

- 5 nights in Salzburg in Hotel am Mirabellplatz Salzburg or similar
- 3 nights in Vienna in Hotel Astoria Wien or similar

MEALS - *varied, flavorful, and highlighting local cuisine*

Breakfast served daily at your hotel.

- Welcome dinner of local specialties in Salzburg
- Dinner at St. Peter Stiftskulinarium (or similar) with music and entertainment
- Tea & Cake atop Untersberg Mountain
- Lunch at Melk Abbey
- Farewell dinner at a Heurigen in a wine village

Additional meals can be arranged upon request.

ACTIVITIES + TOURS + ENTRANCES - *handpicked for your travelers*

Experience fabulous sightseeing with our entertaining and informative guides:

- Guided city tour of Salzburg
- Funicular to Hohensalzburg Castle with entrance
- Excursion to Hallstatt including boat tour
- Tram to top of Untersberg Mountain
- Guided Tour of Melk Abbey
- Boat cruise on Danube from Vienna to Melk
- City tour of Vienna led by local guide
- Entrance to Belvedere Palace in Vienna
- Visit to Spanish Riding School Practice Session in Vienna
- Classical music concert at Sala Terrena (or similar depending on schedules)
- Guided tour of Vienna State Opera House

TOUR MANAGER *to handle on-the-road logistics*

To accompany your group every step of the way from arrival through departure, you will have an American Expeditions full-time Tour Manager and a local Austrian Tour Guide in each city. Our beloved tour managers assist with:

- Greeting and gathering the group upon arrival
- Expediting hotel check-ins and check-outs
- Liaising with reception desks, coach drivers, and guides
- Directing on-site entrances and activities, handling tickets and vouchers
- Keeping each day well-paced
- Sharing cultural and historical content and interpreting local customs
- Sending everyone home with fond memories & hopes to travel together again soon!

TRANSPORTATION *in a private, modern, climate-controlled motor coach with a professional driver*

For all services specified in your itinerary.

INSURANCE *that covers our commitment to you*

American Expeditions, Inc. holds \$5,000,000.00 of Travel Agent and Tour Operator Professional Liability Insurance.

TOUR ENHANCEMENT MATERIALS *to help plan, promote, and prepare for your tour*

- A custom Traveler's Resource Site (TRS): We build this site specifically for your tour as a resource for travelers to engage in from the start. The TRS is where travelers view the itinerary and watch it develop. There are maps, pictures, packing lists, recommendations for destination-based books and movies, collections of FAQs, and helpful travel links. We'll build your site when your group is registered for this tour!
- A customized Tour Handbook with hourly itinerary, packing tips and lists, practical "Things to Know", destination background, and other fun content. This printed booklet is provided for each traveler about a month before departure.
- A luggage tag, passport/document holder, and outlet adapter for each traveler is also included.

AMERICAN EXPEDITION SERVICES *go beyond logistics*

- A unique opportunity to make lifelong friends through music and pilgrimage! When we bring groups together, friendships develop that frequently extend to years of heartfelt reunions on tours we plan around the world.
- You are in good hands! We've got 30+ years' experience arranging custom cultural and special interest tours, performance tours and festivals for choirs, bands, and orchestras.
- Our AE team is the best in the business! We are musicians, teachers, event planners, parents, performers, volunteers, travelers, linguists, athletes, and more, from many countries, sharing our expertise at producing great tour experiences.
- We are right there with you! Often, a person who works on your tour, escorts it. This means your tour manager's expectations for a great program and activities are as high as yours!
- Details are our specialty! Group leaders appreciate our well-organized, user-friendly systems and tools for handling group logistics, payments, and diverse traveler needs.
- You'll love our flexibility! Do some of your travelers need individual flights? Adjoining rooms? Gluten-free meals? We are always glad to help.
- No matter where you live, consider us local! We will travel to meet your group, present the tour, and help you promote and plan for it. We also Zoom, Skype, and video chat.

CONVENIENT ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM *-tour accounting has never been easier!*

American Expeditions has a secure, password-protected, online payment site where tour members register and pay for their tour in increments. Reminders and statements are sent electronically.

Your designated leader is emailed a weekly report on group finances and has access to a portal to view payments at any time. We have a system for handling scholarships and monies from fundraisers as well. If for any reason you prefer to collect payments from your travelers and send us a group payment, that's fine too!





TOUR PACKAGE PRICES *you can rely on*

LANDPACKAGE PRICES:

- \$6,443.00 per person based on double occupancy, minimum of 20 paying travelers

AIRFARE:

- \$1,556.00 per person

This price includes flight taxes and fuel surcharges, which are subject to change until tickets are issued. If flight taxes or fuel surcharges change before tickets are issued, your invoice will be adjusted accordingly.

LAND AND AIR PACKAGE PRICES:

- \$7,999.00 per person based on double occupancy, minimum of 20 paying travelers

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

- \$1,213.00 Single Supplement per person

Prices in this offer are valid until January 7, 2024

In order to guarantee these prices, we must receive a confirmation deposit of \$1500 and registration materials by this date. Prices cover specified tour dates and services only and are based on current availability.

Your tour includes everything above. Here's what's not included:

Passport, official ID, visa or other required travel documents | Immunizations | Fees for extra, oversize or overweight baggage | Luggage handling at airports and hotels | Transportation of oversized instruments | Meeting room | Meals, entrance fees, and coach transfers not mentioned above | Drinks with meals unless specified | Gratuities for tour managers, local guides, coach drivers, hotel staff | Travel insurance (additional information on insurance can be provided).

Please let us know if you would like any of these items added to your tour.

TRAVEL PROTECTION is recommended!

American Expeditions recommends purchasing a travel protection plan through [Travel Insured](#). This link is also available online via your Traveler's Resource Site. *Please review coverage options very carefully and contact Travel Insured Inc. directly with any insurance-related questions.*



Tour Notes

Flights

Our dedicated flight team works with all major airlines to research preferred schedules and fares. We provide options to choose from and even when flights are booked, continue to monitor your reservation and check on alternative routing, prices, and availability to ensure the best arrangements for this tour.

Hotels

American Expeditions is committed to using only hotels that are reputable, clean, and safe. In most cases, we have personally inspected and stayed at the properties we book and although they vary in amenities to accommodate an array of client budgets, we will not compromise on "stay safe" standards.

To give you a better understanding of accommodations:

- Four-star hotels offer above-average service, beautiful reception areas, preferred locations, and more. They are upscale, high-quality, and comfortable, with a variety of amenities. Examples of four-star hotels in the USA: Marriott and Hyatt.
- Three-star hotels offer quality, style, and comfortable accommodations, yet they're still considered "affordable". Though not lavish, they offer a simpler option that won't break the bank. Locations vary. Examples of three-star hotels in the USA: Holiday Inn and Hilton.
- Two-star rated hotels offer value and few amenities but are clean and basic. They tend to be family-run and may be close to major intersections and popular attractions. Examples of two-star hotels in the USA: Days Inn, La Quinta Inn.

Please note that hotels with suites, family-style, and handicap-accessible rooms can be looked into upon request.

Meals

We arrange group meals that are delicious, well-balanced, and healthy. Food allergies and special diets can usually be accommodated if we know about them in advance, and we will ask for food and menu preferences as we plan your meals. With this said, each individual traveler is ultimately responsible for their own dietary needs and making sure they are staying safe while traveling in accordance with any personal sensitivities or allergies they may have.

Please ask us if you would like additional group meals added to this tour.

Ground Transportation

We encourage you to bring all your musicians and friends on tour, and should you exceed the capacity of the motor coach we've included here, we'll provide alternatives for you and exact prices, so please keep us posted on the size of your group.

Also note that extra transfers, changes in itinerary, and additional motor coaching can result in added coach fees. We are happy to quote those costs if they arise in the tour planning process.

Pacing & Mobility

We advise you prepare for walking while on tour. Knowledgeable guides will conduct tours on the motorcoach as well as on foot, and there is always a fair bit of walking in historic city centers where busses cannot access, around castles, palaces, museums, and gardens. Please let us know if there are any limitations to mobility within your group. The more we know, the better we can pace this tour for your travelers' comfort.

Register Now

We are excited to begin planning this tour with you!



AMERICAN EXPEDITIONS

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photo location - our home in Burlington, Vermont