

## Events - all year round

### January-March:

Wiener Eistraum: From mid-January until early March, the Vienna Town Hall Square and part of the adjacent park are transformed into a huge ice rink as part of the Vienna Ice Dream. Ice skating shoes can be hired on site. In addition to a varied supporting program, several gastronomic stands await visitors.

### April:

Vienna City Marathon: The "VCM" is the largest running event in Austria. Every year in April, tens of thousands of running enthusiasts set off on a somewhat different sightseeing tour across the federal capital. A visit along the route is also worthwhile for less enthusiastic spectators.

### May:

Life Ball: The Life Ball is the largest charity event in Europe for the benefit of AIDS relief. Within 20 years, the ball has developed into the city's most flashy party. However, it has never forgotten its central concern to draw media attention to the topic of HIV/AIDS. The opening ceremony on Rathausplatz offers a spectacular show programme with a fashion show and international music stars. The actual ball itself takes place in the premises of the town hall.

### May-June:

Wiener Festwochen: For five weeks, various cultural events will take place as part of the Vienna Festival Weeks. The spectrum ranges from concerts, operas and musicals to theatre performances, other performances and readings. At the opening on Rathausplatz, you can admire the Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna as well as the finalists of the European Young Musicians Competition.

Summer Night Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra: A highlight in the concert calendar is the Summer Night Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. Every year, up to 100,000 visitors listen free of charge to well-known and less-famous melodies in the unique ambience of the Schönbrunn Palace Park. Due to the large number of visitors, it is advisable to travel by public transport.

### June:

Donauinselfest: Since the first Donauinselfest in 1983, the music festival has developed into Europe's largest free open-air festival with up to three million visitors over the course of three days. Over a length of 4.5 kilometres, 20 theme islands and stages await visitors between Nordbrücke and Reichsbrücke. National and international stars of various musical genres - from pop and rock to indie, pop and folk music - entertain the masses with their hits.

### July:

Pop Fest: Friends of the local music scene should not miss the pop festival on Vienna's Karlsplatz. Young and innovative artists present themselves on the "lake stage" in the pond in front of the Karlskirche. Admission to all events is free.

### July/August:

**Film Festival:** The Film Festival on Rathausplatz features film recordings of classical concerts, operas, ballet, but also musicals and jazz. Many visitors come not only because of the films, but also because of the culinary stands. Here you can get a taste of Austrian, Italian, French, Greek, Croatian, but also Iranian, Japanese, Thai or Caribbean dishes.

**ImPulsTanz Festival:** The ImPulsTanz Festival is Europe's largest festival for contemporary dance. Over the course of around five weeks, more than 200 performances, research projects and workshops by national and international artists will take place at various venues.

**October:**

**Viennale:** Since 1960, Austria's best-known and most important film festival has been held every year in October. The Viennale's main programme includes both national and international films, some of which are premieres. The festival also pays special attention to other genres, such as documentaries, short films and experimental works.

**November/December:**

**Christkindlmarkt and Silvesterpfad:** Vienna has a very special flair in the pre-Christmas period, which begins around November 15, when the Christkindlmarkt opens its gates at Rathausplatz. Among the numerous Advent markets, it is probably the largest and best known one. The other Christmas markets at Spittelberg, Karlsplatz, in front of Schönbrunn Palace or Belvedere are no less beautiful, but not quite as crowded. At the turn of the year, the New Year's Eve Trail enjoys great popularity in Vienna's city centre. More than 700,000 visitors are offered a diverse music and entertainment programme.