

Austria Wine Tour

Austria Wine Tour Highlights

- Discover the outstanding quality and range of styles that Austrian wines offer.
- Taste the superb Rieslings and Grüner Veltliners of the Danube region, which are among the best expressions of these varieties in the world, the botrytised sweet wines grown near the Neusiedlersee lake, and fabulous reds made from varieties such as Zweigelt, Blaufränkisch and Sankt Laurent.
- Visit small and large producers, meet winemakers and family owners.
- Based in Vienna, where vineyards are a stroll away from the centre.
- Comprehensive tastings at every visit, four fabulous tasting lunches or dinners.

[Read about the tour I ran to Germany in 2016.](#)

Tour dates

Wednesday 19th - Sunday 23rd May 2021

Please note this tour has been postponed to 2021, due to travel restrictions resulting from Covid-19. Please [contact me](#) if you would like to be kept updated about my plans.

Outline Itinerary

Wednesday

From the Meeting Point at Vienna Airport, a coach transfer is arranged to our hotel in central Vienna (see Flight Transfers below). Prior to our first evening dinner we will visit a local winery, to commence our wine adventures with an exploration of the key grape varieties including Gruner Veltliner and Riesling, and the local 'Gemischter Satz DAC' white wine.

Thursday

Within 50km of Vienna are the renowned vineyard areas of Wachau, Kremstal and Kamptal. On the steep valley sides above the Danube and its tributaries, Riesling is grown on the higher stony terraces and Grüner Veltliner on the lower slopes. A combination of warmth during the day and cool nights allows both these grape varieties to express a richness and complexity to challenge the best wines of Alsace and Germany. We will visit two well known producers, explore their wines through comprehensive tastings and enjoy a lunch where local cuisine will complement the whites and reds of the region.

Dinner at leisure.

Friday

We venture south east of Vienna to Bergenland, where surrounding the Neusiedlersee lake are vineyards that benefit from its moderating influence on temperature, and most crucially the humidity it creates in the autumn - this is one of the very few areas of the world where noble rot occurs every year, enabling the most exquisite sweet wines to be made. Our tastings at different producers will allow us to explore the full range of wines made in this area, and a

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tasting lunch will allow us to explore how they work with local dishes.

Dinner at leisure.

Saturday

We stay closer to Vienna today, with a morning or afternoon visit either to the Carnuntum region where international red wine varieties are being planted to complement and contrast with the local Zweigelt grape, or to Thermenregion where local white varieties Zierfandler and Rotgipfler produce rich, complex wines capable of long ageing. We will enjoy some free time in Vienna prior to our final dinner together at a top local restaurant.

Sunday

The tour ends after breakfast. Transfers are arranged to meet the advised return flight from Vienna airport (see Flight Transfers).

Note: the itinerary may be changed at Tim Syrad Wine Tours discretion so as to facilitate the smooth running of the tour and to accommodate great opportunities for visits or tastings that may become available.

Key Tour Information

*** The Key Tour Information specifies what you should expect from the tour, no matter how far ahead you book. As additional information is published on the website, it will be advised to clients who have reserved a place. The daily itinerary will be finalised in the weeks leading up to the Start Date.**

As this tour has been postponed to 2021, due to Covid-19, some elements of the Key Tour Information may change. Anyone who has booked on the tour will be contacted regarding any changes as soon as they are identified.

[Download the 2020 Key Tour Information as a pdf](#)

Pricing

- £1,099 per person based on 2 people sharing a double/twin room.
- £100 supplement for single occupancy of a double room.
- £100 discount for bookings made before 1st January 2020, and paid for 8 weeks before departure.

Price includes

- Transport from the Meeting Point at Vienna Airport to the hotel on the Wednesday, and to the Departure Point at Vienna Airport on the Sunday.
- 5 days (including arrival and departure days)/4 nights bed and breakfast in good quality hotel in Vienna.
- Coach for all activities in the itinerary.
- Three full days of visits and tastings.
- Six visits/tastings, including wineries in areas such as Kamptal, Kremstal, Vienna, Neusiedlersee.

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- Four lunches/dinners with local wines.
- All local taxes and service charges.
- The services of Tim Syrad as your Wine Tour manager and Wine Guide.

It is a condition of my accepting a booking that you will take out appropriate travel insurance - please see our Terms and Conditions Section 8.

[Terms and Conditions are available here](#) or on request.

Please note flights are not included in the price. Many of my clients prefer to extend their holiday before or after my tours, so I let people make their own flight arrangements.

Flight Transfers

Our Meeting Point and Departure Point is Vienna Airport. I will arrange coach transfer between the airport and our hotel, to coincide with flight schedules when they are announced.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss travel options, for example flying to or from a different airport or making the journey by rail or driving. I cannot arrange travel for you, but I can advise on what might work best.

How to book this tour

Please contact me by phone or email, or use the enquiry form on the [Contact page](#) on the website to check availability. If I confirm a place is available, please complete the [booking form](#) and send it to me with your deposit. A deposit of £100 is taken at booking to reserve your place, the balance must be paid 8 weeks before the tour starts.

If you don't have travel insurance arranged for the dates of the tour at the time you are booking you will need to provide me with details (name of insurer, policy number, 24 hour emergency telephone numbers) before the tour starts.

Once I have confirmed a tour is proceeding I advise clients to arrange flights and confirm travel arrangements to me. **Please do not arrange flights before I have confirmed your place and that the tour is proceeding.**

More about my tour of Austria

Austria exports very little wine, only one fifth of what it produces, so it is not surprising that most people are unfamiliar with the fantastic quality and variety it has to offer. It is situated in a near-perfect winegrowing location, on the same latitudes as Champagne and Burgundy, but enjoying the benefit of the warm easterly winds crossing the Pannonian plain, the cooling influence of rivers and altitude, long hours of sunshine while the grapes are ripening and a relatively dry climate that reduces disease risk. A variety of soil types, suited to many different grape varieties allows a huge variety of styles of wine to be grown: fresh zingy whites for early consumption, and similarly light, easy drinking reds, rosés and of course Sekt (sparkling) at the

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'entry level', and at the 'top end' complex, rich and age-worthy whites and reds. Combine these natural advantages with a wine tradition that precedes Roman occupation, and a generation of highly ambitious and technically advanced wine growers, and it will soon become apparent that three days of visits will not be enough to do justice to this wonderful country!

So we are focusing this trip on regions that are an easy travelling distance from Vienna, our base, and we are still spoilt for choice.

Clearly we should expect some spectacular Grüner Veltliners, as this is Austria's signature grape variety, but Wachau, Kremstal and Kamptal to the west of Vienna produce some of the finest Rieslings in the world. All the better for being grown in the most picturesque locations!

Lake Neusiedlersee is 133km long but only 1m deep for much of its length, so provides a fascinating series of micro climates, benefitting both sweet wine made from botrytised grapes, and complex red wines grown on stony slopes. Eiswein is made from grapes that freeze on the vine before harvest and 'Strohwein' made from grapes dried in the sunshine of the long autumn.

Less famous, but equally fascinating are the Carnuntum and Thermenregion regions, the former providing a far warmer climate than might be expected in Austria, which lends it to making superb red wines, while the latter is, like Aquis Terme in Piedmont, a Roman Spa area, and produces a rich and honeyed white blend from grapes grown surrounding the village of Gumpoldskirchen.

And of course there is Vienna itself. Here there is a tradition of early release (even before Beaujolais Nouveau) of the freshest wines, sold in the local Heurigen, identified by their evergreen garlands. More recently investment in very high quality Grüner Veltliner wines is paying dividends, and we will be able to enjoy this range of wines just minutes from our hotel.

To achieve the great value for money I strive for in every tour, and ensure we meet people who tend the grapes and make the wine, we will visit a mix of family producers and co-operatives, and of course our food and wine matching experiences will be a highlight. Our lunches on Thursday and Friday will allow us to experience the wines from the area we are visiting with some perfectly matched cuisine, while our dinners will allow us to enjoy the best of Austrian wine and food, in its most beautiful city.

More about Tim Syrad Wine Tours

Since 2001 I have escorted over 100 groups of people on tours to wine regions in Europe and the New World. My clients keep coming back year after year because in addition to tastings and visits we really do meet the people who make the wine and tend the vines. I pride myself in offering tours that are informative, imaginative and enjoyable. I keep group sizes manageable so that we spend our time appreciating our visits, not getting on and off the bus or queuing for the loos! I personally escort all of my tours, and I ensure as much as possible of the money my clients pay is spent on great food and wine, and good hotels. I believe you can combine appreciating fabulous wine with relaxation and laughter, which is why so many of my clients

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come on tour with me every year. There is a friendly and welcoming atmosphere on every tour from the start, and I am proud that many friendships have been made between the people who come on tour with me.

For more information [about me](#), my [next tours](#), and [previous tours](#) I have run, and to [find out what my clients](#) say (some of whom have been coming on tour with me since 2001) please explore the website.

For more information about this tour, or to book a place, please [contact me](#)

By phone (020 7060 4529)

Or email (tim@timsyradwinetours.com)

Or use the online enquiry form on the [Contact page](#)