

Diverse merriment – festivals along the Danube

Celebrations are frequent, varied and much-loved along the Danube. The calendar of events is correspondingly full of sensational, enjoyable and amazing offerings for eye, ear and palate all year long for the regions between Passau and Hainburg.

In many places along the Danube, the year starts with - yes, you guessed it - the Blue Danube, the secret national anthem of Austria. And along the Silvesterpfad, an exuberant New Year's Eve route through the historical center of Vienna and along Prater, thousands dance their way into the New Year to the three-quarter time of waltzes by Johann Strauss. Many people find it especially romantic if fireworks are combined with the Danube waves, for instance, at the charming mid-year festivals during the summer solstice in the Wachau and in the Nibelungengau. Donau in Flammen (Danube in Flames) is a set of legendary events in Upper Austria featuring this fascinating combination of fire and water.

It is no surprise that music plays such a significant role in most festivities along the Danube as an ingredient of local cultural celebrations. In many cases, music itself is the focal point of events and an occasion for festivals of all kinds. The Donauinselfest in Vienna is a good example. It is the biggest open-air party in Europe. Every year, up to 300 bands and groups perform there, providing three million visitors with music of all styles but primarily Pop, Rock and Jazz.

These types of music also predominate at the summer concerts at Clam Castle, where international stars regularly perform in a small yet exquisite venue. Big names are showcased at the Grafenegg Festival but of a classical ilk. Renowned orchestras and the respective composer in residence assure concerts of superb quality. Brucknertage in St. Florian and donauFESTWOCHE in the Strudengau are two other festivals that conduct a dialog between early and modern music to the delight of classical music enthusiasts.

Danube delights

Winemaking has been central to life along the Danube for centuries. This fact is reflected in the calendar of celebrations, which abounds in wine festivals from spring to late fall. For instance, the Wachauer Weinfrühling (Wachau Wine Spring) is an appealing event, where all the winemakers of the Wachau, a UNESCO World Heritage region, open the doors of their wineries to the public. During the Wiener Weinwandertage (Vienna Winehiking Tour), the gates to vineyards are flung wide open within view of the Danube and within the city limits of this international metropolis.

The mild Danube climate creates the best conditions not only for wine, but also for Wachau apricots. It is no wonder that thousands of visitors flock to the valley just for apricot blossom time and then in July to take part in the exuberant apricot festivities in Krems and in Spitz during the apricot harvest. These merry festivals show how deeply culinary enjoyment is anchored in everyday life in the regions along the Danube. This fact is also in evidence at the annual Vienna Culinary Festival in Stadtpark, where small producers and top local chefs serve regional specialties and at the Carnuntum Experience (year-round since 2016) with its numerous events revolving around wine and the region.

The different events along the Danube can often be combined quite conveniently with a cycling tour or a hike. The autumnal Legend Hike on the Donausteig with the famous storyteller Helmut Wittmann is a low-key, impressive counterpoint.

Events Danube Region 2019

All year	Carnuntum Experience
18.01.-03.03.2019	Wiener Eistraum
28.02.2019 20.02.2020	Wiener Opernball
15.03.-17.11. 2019	Schloss Hof & Schloss Niederweiden „Warum isst die Welt, wie sie isst?“ Teil 2: Das Spiel mit dem Essen
16.03.-03.11.2019	Ausstellung auf der Schallaburg „Der Hände Werk“
28.03.-11.04.2019	wachau GOURMETfestival
29.03.-22.04.2019	Osterfestival Imago Dei in Krems
30.03.-21.04.2019	Ostermärkte
07.04.2019	Vienna City Marathon
24.-26.04.2019	Donaukanaltreiben
27.-28.04.2019	Weinfrühling im Kremstal, Kamptal & Traisental
May – September 2019	Sommer im MuseumsQuartier (MQ)
May – September 2019	Sommer am Donaukanal
03.05.-26.05.2019	Lössfrühling Wagram
04.-05.05.2019	Wachauer Weinfrühling
10.-12.05.2019	Genussfestival im Stadtpark Wien
Summer 2019	Clam Concerts
01.-16.06.2019	EuroPride 2019 in Wien
08.06.2018	Life Ball in Wien
08.06.2019	Passau im Feuerzauber
10.06.2019	Sagenwanderung am Donausteig
15.06.2019	Sommersonnenwende Nibelungengau
15.-16.06. & 22.-23.06. 2019	Privatgartentage in Tulln
15.-16.06. & 22.-23.06. 2019	Römerfestival in der Römerstadt Carnuntum
19.06.-14.08.2019	Sommerspiele Melk
20.06.2019	Sommernachtskonzert Schönbrunn der Wiener Philharmoniker
21.06.2019	Donau in Flammen Linz
21.-23.06.2019	Donauinsselfest
22.06.2019	Sommersonnenwende Wachau
24.06-10.07.2019	Jazz Fest Wien
29.06.-01.09.2019	Musikfilm-Festival am Rathausplatz in Wien
12.-28.07.2019	Glatt & Verkehrt
12.-14.07.2019	Alles Marille
18.-20.07.2019	Pflasterspektakel Linz
19.-21.07.2019	Spitzer Marillenkirtag
25.-28.07.2019	Popfest Wien
26.07.2019	donauFESTWOCHEN im Strudengau
31.07.-04.08.2019	Vienna Major – Beachvolleyball auf der Donausinsel
09.-26.08.2019	15. Afrika-Tage Wien auf der Donauinsel
Beginning of August 2019	St. Florianer Brucknertage
16.08.-08.09.2019	Grafenegg Festival
04.09.-11.10.2019	Internationales Brucknerfest
05.-09.09.2019	Ars Electronica Festival
07.09.2019	Klangwolke in Linz
20.-21.09.2019	Starnacht aus der Wachau
26.09.-13.10.2019	Wiener Wiesn-Fest
End of September 2019	Wiener Weinwandertag

Oct.– Nov. 2019		Wachau in Echtzeit
12.10.2019		24 Stunden Wanderung am Donausteig
November/December 2019		Weihnachtsmärkte
31.12.2019		Silvesterpfad in Wien

More Information:

ARGE Donau Österreich

c/o WGD Donau Oberösterreich Tourismus GmbH

Lindengasse 9, 4040 Linz

Tel: +43 732/7277 800

E-Mail: info@donau-oesterreich.at | Web: www.donau-oesterreich.at