



2019

PRESS RELEASE



Experience the Middle Ages close up at Mauterndorf Castle

Salzburg's favorite excursion destination for families celebrates the 500th anniversary of the death of the genius Leonardo da Vinci

Hohenwerfen Fortress towers hundreds of meters above the Salzach valley. Over the centuries, it has served as a defensive fortification and prison. Today, it takes visitors on an adventurous journey back in time to the Middle Ages: from the creepy torture chamber, to the bell tower with its magnificent views, to the stunning birds of prey flight demonstrations.

From medieval castle to family tourist attraction

Hohenwerfen Fortress looks back on an eventful history: coinciding with the Hohensalzburg Fortress and the Friesach Castle in Carinthia, in 1077 its construction began under Archbishop Gebhard von Helfenstein. Great rulers and territorial lords were prisoners in the castle. During its varied history, the mighty fortress served as a movie set and gendarmerie school, until more than 30 years ago when Hohenwerfen Fortress was finally opened to visitors from all over the world. Since then, the castle has become one of the most popular attractions for families in the province of Salzburg.

Guided tour of the fortress and lots of fun for kids

As part of a guided tour, visitors get to know the castle in a fun way. Among the highlights of the tour is a visit to the creepy torture chamber or the fantastic view from the bell tower. For foreign-language visitors, an audio guide in 13 languages is available. For children, there is a funny audio-guide in German, Italian, English, Dutch, Danish and Hebrew. Additionally, the little visitors can explore the entire castle area on their own during a scavenger hunt. When all of the questions have been answered and all of the puzzles have been solved, a little surprise awaits you in the knight's shop.

Special Anniversary year exhibition: Leonardo da Vinci - The mysterious world of the genius

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Hohenwerfen Castle:

Burgstraße 2, 5450 Werfen
Opening times: 02.4. to 03.11.2019
Apr, Oct & Nov: Tu.-Su. 9:30am – 4:00pm
May to Sep: daily 9:00am – 5:00pm
15 Jul to 16 Aug: daily 9:00am – 6:00pm



Fittingly, for this year's 500th anniversary of the death of the universal genius, Leonardo da Vinci, the Hohenwerfen Fortress is offering a special exhibition about the genius inventor and artist. In addition to the well-known highlights, visitors can immerse themselves in the world of the genius on four levels of the historic armory. Vehicles, machines and holograms provide excitement for adults and children, demonstrating in a vivid way how Leonardo da Vinci's bold visions shaped the world of technology. Already in the two years of its existence, the exhibition has become a magnet for visitors. Interested parties have a chance to visit the special exhibition for the whole 2019 season. The individual special tours, which are completely tailored to the theme, are particularly exciting. Details can be found at www.burg-hohenwerfen.at.

Historic Falconry Center and an overflowing event calendar

Several times a day, the spectacular flight demonstrations with eagles, hawks and buzzards of the Historic Falconry Center take place on the great linden tree meadow. The castle is home to Austria's first falconry museum, which has been renovated for the 2019 season. Year round, the calendar of events overflows with night tours, special falconry programs and a festive Christmas market. In summer, Hohenwerfen Castle and the film cultural center, "Das Kino" will present open air film screenings in the castle courtyard. The castle tavern invites you to take a culinary break and can be booked exclusively for "chivalrous" events.

Arrival and Tickets

Hohenwerfen Fortress can be reached from the city of Salzburg in 30 minutes by car. From the parking lot, a lift leads up to the fortress. Visitors can also reach the castle on foot. The climb takes half an hour on the Vogelteinn path. There is a new nature trail, which provides information on graphically designed panels on the themes of game, forest and wood. The castle can be visited free of charge with the "SalzburgerLand Card". The inexpensive online ticket is also very popular. Visitors save not only cash, but also waiting time at the ticket window.

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