



**2021**

## **PRESS INFORMATION**



### **Fortress Hohensalzburg: Landmark at the Heart of Mozart's Home Town**

***Salzburg's most popular tourist destination starts the 2021 season with an all-new Panorama Tour.***

Fortress Hohensalzburg is a landmark commonly associated with Salzburg, the world-famous city of Mozart. It offers guests a majestic panoramic vista of the city and takes them on a fascinating journey back through the history of the building under the rule of powerful prince archbishops, when Salzburg's mighty 'Stier' organ was heard far beyond the rooftops of the town.

#### **New Panorama Tour of a Salzburg landmark**

The latest highlight up at Fortress Hohensalzburg is the elaborately designed Panorama Tour. It leads guests from the salt storage depot to the prison tower, along the ancient battlement walkway to the Salzburg Bull. This newly compiled tour is truly a treat for the eyes, taking visitors to the highest point of the fortress and affording breath-taking, sweeping views of the town and the surrounding mountains.

The tour also provides fascinating insights into the history of the fortress, ancient legends and the darker secrets held within the walls. Artistic installations fill entire rooms, a playfully designed peepshow box and a lovingly crafted booklet make the new tour an experience for all the senses to thrill visitors of all ages. The Panorama Tour is included with every fortress ticket.

#### **Important COVID information for visitors in 2021**

The 'Burgen & Schlösser' team has compiled a comprehensive collection of measures to ensure all statutory requirements have been fulfilled, guaranteeing a safe and pleasant visit to the fortress. Please

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select the preferred date and time for your visit, and purchase tickets in advance, online whenever possible. Tickets can be purchased quickly and easily via the fortress website. In the COVID year of 2021, the ticket windows at the fortress only have limited quotas. This can lead to waiting times, especially in the summer.

### **Virtual tours enable you to explore the fortress from home**

In 2021, all fortress fans who can't get here in person have the option of enjoying a free virtual tour of Fortress Hohensalzburg. Online visitors can explore the interior of the complex at will, and some places can be entered and seen in detail rarely accessible to the public. The 360° tour is complemented by interviews with experts and fascinating background information. It can be found on the website at [www.festung-hohensalzburg.at](http://www.festung-hohensalzburg.at).

### **State rooms bring history to life**

Fortress Hohensalzburg is one of the largest fortress complexes to have been built in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, and despite its turbulent history it was never destroyed. Today, it offers visitors unique historical insights into life far back into the Middle Ages. The upper floor of the castle keep is particularly impressive, offering the splendour of the state rooms. These include the 'Golden Chamber' and an elaborately adorned tiled oven and are considered among the most beautiful gothic secular chambers in Europe. The lovingly crafted Magic Theatre takes those visiting the state rooms on a fascinating historical journey through the building phases of the fortress. Music, lighting effects and video installations guarantee a multi-sensory experience to enchant children and adults alike. The state rooms and magic theatre can be visited the whole year round with an all-inclusive ticket; as can the Rainer Regiment Museum, the fortress museum and the marionette museum.

Fortress Hohensalzburg offers groups and school classes a wide variety of specially tailored tours. Certified guides add fascinating historical details to the story of fortress, and access is granted to hidden corners of the building complex. Advance registration is required for visitors requesting special tours.

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### **The history of weapons at the fortress**

Many visitors will come across the exhibition in the arsenal for the very first time. For centuries it was used to store cannons, armour, melee weapons and firearms for emergencies. Over time, some of this inventory was sold off or disappeared into the dark annals of history, slowly stripping the arsenal, or armoury, of its original significance. Elaborate rebuilding activity enabled this forgotten section of the fortress complex to be restored to its original function. The new exhibition tells the story of the cannons, armour, melee weapons and firearms used at the fortress. Interactive models allow visitors to try out various methods of attack and defence employed by troops of medieval fortresses.

### **'Panorama Ticket' for extra-early and extra-late visits**

Since 2020, to guarantee every visitor the best possible experience, there has been a new and easily-affordable Panorama Ticket available for early and late visits to Fortress Hohensalzburg. It's available from 08.30 – 10.00 and 18.00 – 20.00 and targets guests who mainly come for the view and to take in the wonderful morning and evening atmospheres. It is sold during the peak season from 1<sup>st</sup> May until 30<sup>th</sup> September and includes the ride up and down in the funicular, a visit to the fortress, access to courtyards and bastions, and the new Panorama Tour.

### **Exciting events in 2021**

Fortress Hohensalzburg has lined up a colourful programme of events of interest to locals, Austrians and guests from all round the world. Bearing the COVID situation in mind, we have also planned all kinds of exciting events for 2021. There are atmospheric guided tours in the evenings, performances of 'Everyman' in the courtyard in July & August, and daily fortress concerts. The Salzburg Advent period up at the fortress is particularly popular, with an authentic Christmas market featuring Salzburg-produced arts and crafts, regional culinary treats and a romantic pre-Christmas atmosphere. Visitors can enjoy the marvellous views across the old town of Salzburg with a mug of mulled wine or punch. All events and details can be viewed at [www.festung-hohensalzburg.at](http://www.festung-hohensalzburg.at).

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### **General visitor info about Fortress Hohensalzburg**

Fortress Hohensalzburg is open 365 days a year. The funicular rail service to the fortress and back runs every 10 minutes. Alternatively, a leisurely stroll up through the defence portal, the mayor's archway and into the outer castle courtyard takes no more than 20 minutes. Great food and drink are available to visitors in the castle *Burgrestaurant* and the *Burgschenke* tavern, which can also be booked for celebrations. Fortress concerts are held in the state rooms. Fortress Hohensalzburg can be seen free-of-charge with the Salzburg Card and visitors benefit from free WLAN and the informative website with a 'Comic & Guide'. Fortress Hohensalzburg also offers an attractive Online Ticket. Visitors use their smartphones, notebooks or PCs to purchase tickets online – and save money.

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