

2023



PRESS INFORMATION

Fortress Hohensalzburg: The landmark at the heart of Mozart's home town

Some say you haven't seen Salzburg if you haven't visited Fortress Hohensalzburg. The over 1,000-year-old fortress is considered *the* landmark of the city of Mozart – and not without reason. Once, from the safety of these mighty walls, the powerful prince archbishop controlled the fate of the entire region. Today, the fortress promises an exciting and entertaining journey into Salzburg's history. There's so much to explore here, high above the rooftops of the UNESCO-protected old town, from the famous state rooms, to the new panorama tour – an interactive journey to the highest point in the city.

Explore Salzburg's long-serving, indomitable landmark

Fortress Hohensalzburg is one of the largest 11th century castle complexes in existence, and was never seriously damaged throughout its entire eventful history. Consequently, today it offers its visitors unique historical insights far back into the Middle Ages: The castle keep with its magnificent **state rooms** is particularly impressive. The "Golden Chamber" and elaborately-designed tiled stove belong to some of the most beautiful late Gothic secular rooms in Europe. In the lovingly-crafted **Magic Theatre**, visitors to the state rooms embark on a fascinating journey through time in the footsteps of the venue's initiator, Leonhard von Keutschach. Music, light effects and video installations make it a multi-sense experience to fascinate children and adults alike.

New in summer 2023: A playful exploration of the fortress

There will be several new features awaiting discovery at Fortress Hohensalzburg in the summer of 2023. The fortress tour was recently redesigned, and the previous audio guide has now been replaced by an all-new **panorama** tour. Highlights of this interactive tour include a large 3D salt model of the old town and an ingenious system of horns that allows visitors to produce the melodies of the Salzburg Bull organ themselves. The panoramic tour is complemented by attentively-crafted mechanical peep-boxes that enable children to playfully explore the history of the building and the legends of Salzburg. For the summer of 2023, with children in mind the offering for family visitors has been completely reworked, and a number of **play areas** have been

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Opening hours:

January - April: Every day 9.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.
May - September: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 8.00 p.m.
October - December: Every day 9.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.
Advent weekends & Easter: 9.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

added **in the castle grounds**. Now, children and parents embark on exciting voyages of discovery, solving numerous tricky tasks together on the way.

Boost your knowledge on special tours in 2023

The centuries-old walls, towers and doors at Fortress Hohensalzburg hide many secrets a quick visit will never reveal. That's why the fortress team offers a packed programme of **special tours**. On these tours, knowledgeable guides shed light on the fortress's colourful history. Held throughout the year, **family tours** in German and English are especially tailored to the interests of children and young people. One **guided tour for** people with limited mobility explores the building **without navigating steps or staircases**. Every Thursday in July and August the **evening tours** offer an atmospheric vista across the rooftops of Mozart's home town. All information about special tours is available at www.festung-hohensalzburg.at.

Fortress museums and displays

As well as the above highlights, Fortress Hohensalzburg is home to a whole range of fascinating museums, including the **Rainer Regiment Museum** and the **Fortress Museum**. The current **exhibition in the historic armoury** tells the story of the fortress's defences, guns, armour and hand weapons. Interactive models allow visitors to try out various methods of attack and defence on a medieval castle complex.

Events 2023: Great entertainment throughout the year

Fortress Hohensalzburg is known and loved for its varied **programme of events**, too. Annual highlights include performances of **Everyman in the fortress courtyard** (July & August) and the daily **Fortress Concerts**. The very popular **medieval festival** on 2nd and 3rd September features traditional crafts, fencing demonstrations, plenty of children's activities and lots more. On advent weekends, locals often advise tourists to enjoy the seasonal Christmas atmosphere at the authentic **Salzburg Fortress Advent** Christmas market, offering Salzburg arts and crafts, and regional delicacies, mugs of mulled wine and punch, and magnificent views across the old town of Salzburg.

All dates throughout the year are listed here: www.festung-hohensalzburg.at.

The right ticket for every occasion

Fortress Hohensalzburg is Salzburg's most popular tourist attraction, welcoming over one million visitors every year. In order to best cater to the needs of all visitors, there are various ticket options available. The **all-inclusive ticket** is the best choice for visitors looking to experience everything the fortress has to offer. The very affordable **Panorama Ticket** is option created especially for all those in a hurry. It's available from

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8.30am to 10am and from 6pm to 8pm, and is aimed specifically at guests coming primarily for the view and to enjoy the wonderful atmosphere in the morning and evening. It's available peak season from 1st May to 30th September and includes a ride up and back down with the fortress funicular, a visit to the castle grounds with courtyards and bastions, *and* the new panorama tour. The Fortress Hohensalzburg **online ticket** is a great way to avoid queues at the ticket office.

General information for visitors to Fortress Hohensalzburg

Fortress Hohensalzburg is open 365 days a year. The **fortress funicular railway** runs up and down every 10 minutes, and it takes around 20 minutes to walk up to the fortress through the guarded archways, the Mayor's Gate and the outer courtyard. Guests are treated to culinary delights in the **international fortress restaurant** and the **Burgschenke tavern restaurant**, which can also be booked for celebrations. Fortress concerts are held in the state rooms. Fortress Hohensalzburg can be visited free of charge with the Salzburg Card, and visitors benefit from free WLAN and an informative website with a "Comic & Guide".

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