

2023

PRESS INFORMATION



Hohenwerfen Castle: A journey back in time to the Middle Ages

Hohenwerfen Castle perches majestically atop a lofty rock peak, far above Salzachtal valley. Trained birds of prey circle the towers, while those who pass through these mighty walls enter another world. This is an experience of the Middle Ages for all the senses. Hohenwerfen Fortress is one of the most popular family destinations in the entire province of Salzburg.

The Legend of Jackl: Witches and Wizards in Salzburg

'The Legend of Jackl – Wizards and Witches in Salzburg' is a special exhibition highlight on every visit to the castle that immediately became a visitor magnet as soon as it opened. It's dedicated to a craftsman and bandit leader from Werfen – Jakob Tischler (a.k.a. Jakob Koller), better known as 'Jackl the Wizard'. Visitors discover a world of witches and wizards on a total of four floors of the ancient armoury building. The display deals with the occurrences at the centre of the Salzburg witch trials, through to today's cults of magic around the world. The exhibition fascinates visitors with authentic and very spooky exhibits, multimedia installations and fairy-tale characters.

Experience the Middle Ages up close

There's far more to be enjoyed at Hohenwerfen Fortress than adventures and stories of legendary magicians, witches and wizards. One major highlight is a guided **tour of the fortress**. Guests are immersed in the history of the building and learn many a creepy detail from days long gone. For example, in the torture chamber with its terrifying dungeon, which was once inhabited by a mute prisoner. From high up in the bell tower there's a wonderful view of Salzburg's mountain scenery, inviting visitors to take photos and marvel at the view. The tour for foreign-language visitors is offered with an **audio guide in 13 languages**. After the tour, the **castle tavern restaurant** tempts guests with regional specialties and knightly delicacies.

Historic birds of prey at close range

Your press contact:

Birgit Meixner, Salzburg Castles and Palaces Management
Burgstraße
Mönchsberg 34, 5020 Salzburg
Tel: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 81, Fax: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 85
Apr
E-mail: meixner@salzburg-burgen.at
Internet: www.salzburg-burgen.at

Erlebnisburg Hohenwerfen:

2, 5450 Werfen
Opening hours: 01.04. until 05.11.2023
, Oct & Nov: Tue-Sun 9.30am - 4pm
May to September: daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

17. July to 18 August: daily 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

One special highlight of every castle visit is a **falconry demonstration** staged by the **old provincial falconry centre**. Demonstrations in the castle grounds are held twice a day, and even three times a day in July and August. At the fortress, visitors from all over the world witness spectacular aerial manoeuvres performed by falcons, eagles, buzzards and other birds of prey at close quarters. Trained falconry specialists and the **falconry museum** provide insights into an ancient craft rarely seen today.

A medieval fortress becomes a family attraction

Hohenwerfen Castle can look back on a highly eventful past. Construction of Hohensalzburg Fortress, and of Friesach Castle in Carinthia, was commenced in parallel in 1077 under Archbishop Gebhard von Helfenstein. Great rulers and regional sovereigns were often imprisoned in the castle. During its colourful history the mighty Hohenwerfen Fortress has also served as a film location and a police training college, until it was ultimately opened up for visitors from around the world 30 years ago. Since then, the fortress has become one of the most popular tourist attractions in the entire province of Salzburg.

A paradise for families

Hohenwerfen Castle is a great place for families. A special children's **audio guide is available in six languages** (German, Italian, English, Dutch, Danish and Hebrew) to ensure all kids enjoy entertaining, depictive and informative insights into life in the Middle Ages. The **children's riddle rally** equips kids with a notebook and sends them off on a thrilling treasure hunt. Those who solve all the riddles and find all the items can look forward to a surprise treat in the castle shop.

Events: Always something going on at the castle

As every year, in 2023 Hohenwerfen Castle will be staging a wide variety of events. Highlights include the **atmospheric Christmas market** in December, the **mystical nights** - when guests sit around the burgrave's table, and the **Regional Crafts Day** on 9th and 10th September. There's a lot more in store for families throughout the year, such as the **Big Children's Festival** (8th October), the **medieval bustle** of jugglers, craftsmen and knights at the castle, or the **special falconry demonstrations** with authentic hunting and court music from down the centuries. An overview of all events with the exact dates can be found on the website: **www.burg-hohenwerfen.at**.

Explore the castle from home on a 360° tour

Your press contact:

Birgit Meixner, Salzburg Castles and Palaces Management
Burgstraße
Mönchsberg 34, 5020 Salzburg
Tel: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 81, Fax: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 85Apr
E-mail: meixner@salzburg-burgen.at
Internet: **www.salzburg-burgen.at** 17. July to 18 August: daily 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Erlebnisburg Hohenwerfen:

2, 5450 Werfen
Opening hours: 01.04. until 05.11.2023
, Oct & Nov: Tue-Sun 9.30am - 4pm
May to September: daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Castle fans can now enjoy a free virtual tour of Hohenwerfen Castle. Explore the interior of the building on your own – from home, and marvel at the special exhibition in the armoury. The **360° tour** is supplemented by interviews with experts and exciting background information. The virtual tour is on our website at: www.burg-hohenwerfen.at.

Getting here & purchasing tickets

Hohenwerfen Castle is just 30 minutes from Salzburg on the motorway. There's a lift up to the fortress from the car park below. Alternatively, visitors can follow the *Vogeltennweg* path up to the top on foot. The ascent takes around 30 minutes. The castle can be explored free-of-charge with the 'Salzburger-Land Card'.

Your press contact:

Birgit Meixner, Salzburg Castles and Palaces Management
Burgstraße
Mönchsberg 34, 5020 Salzburg
Tel: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 81, Fax: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 85
Apr
E-mail: meixner@salzburg-burgen.at
Internet: www.salzburg-burgen.at

Erlebnisburg Hohenwerfen:

2, 5450 Werfen
Opening hours: 01.04. until 05.11.2023
, Oct & Nov: Tue-Sun 9.30am - 4pm
May to September: daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

17. July to 18 August: daily 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.