

# Astounding Austria

The Austrian capital Vienna is a beautiful mosaic of Mozart, music, majestic monuments and much more, while Salzburg is famous for its Sound of Music tour

## Aruna Gracias Rathod

Vienna is a city of beautiful surprises – with all the ingredients that go into the making of a lovely European holiday. The charming old town, the splendid Baroque churches, the majestic cathedrals, the magnificent old buildings, the larger-than-life statues and the lively café culture.

### SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

The fantastic sight of the 445-foot tall St. Stephen's Cathedral, that soars into the sky, leaves you in awe. Take that 500-metre high street walk through fine boutiques and label stores to the State Opera and relax on one of the benches to see the most amazing mix of the modern and the traditional in motion.



The hop-on-hop-off bus is a great way to see the sights and sounds of the stately city. While the red line tour shows you attractions in the heart of the city (museums, parliament, city hall, university), the blue-line shows you around the suburbs and the outskirts of Vienna, that includes a visit to the Giant Ferris Wheel and over the Blue Danube.

The history of this European city meshes effortlessly with the grind and rush of the modern metropolis. When all the walking and going around gets you tired and hungry, you can sneak into one of the beer gardens in the inner city, or the traditional cafés that offer schnitzels, sausages and the exquisite sacher torte - a chocolate cake brushed with warm apricot jam and covered in a shiny coat of rich dark chocolate ganache.

### HAVE A BALL

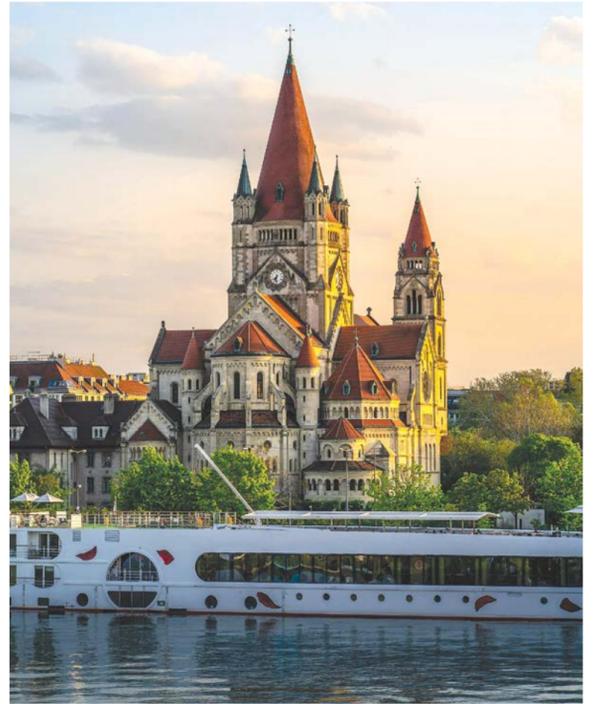
In Vienna, a good 300 balls take place every year - that's practically one every day if you take the Sunday off. The city of waltzes exuberantly celebrates carnival from January until early

March, with the ball season reaching a peak in February. From the eclectic Coffee-House Owners' Ball and the Hunters' Ball, to the exclusive Doctors' Ball

and the Lawyers' Ball – and yes, the Rainbow Ball for LGBTQI, there's a ball for everyone. And then, there's the grand Opera Ball at the Vienna State Opera in early March, the one day when visitors have the unique opportunity to see the famous opera house on Ringstrasse not only from the spectator's seat but actually experience it 'backstage' surrounded by many music celebrities.

### SALZBURG – A CHARMING CITY

The fastest way to reach Salzburg is to take the Rail Jet from Vienna, have breakfast on-board and in less than three hours, you are in Salzburg, the birthplace of Mozart.



Back to Salzburg, this is the place where the maestro spent much of his 25 years, before he moved to Vienna. The two residences in which Mozart lived, the original instruments of his time, the artefacts representative of his life and a handful of museums in memory of the great musician – Salzburg is a city dedicated to Mozart. Start at the tourist office on Mozartplatz, and admire the sculpture in honour of the composer. Take snaps of the majestic 18th-century fountain of Neptune and his horses, walk down the alley to Salzburg's prettiest shopping street, take a lazy stroll along the River Salz, veer towards the countryside with the entertaining four-hour Sound of Music tour.

This tour takes you through the life of the von Trapp family. The fascinating life of former novice Maria von Trapp and her singing family became a world-wide success when the film was released in 1965, with Julie Andrews starring as Maria. The songs from "The Sound of Music" are famous around the globe. The tour takes participants through most of the original shooting locations like Mirabell Gardens and the Pegasus Fountain (the dance scene with Maria and the children); Schloss Leopoldskron (in the film, the house where the family lived); Hellbrunn palace (singing scenes); Nonnberg Convent (where the young Maria was a novice); St. Gilgen / Wolfgangsee (opening scene of the movie) and Mondsee Basilica (wedding scene).



### MOZART MANIA

In Vienna, music is a way of life and one Mr Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is the mascot. Mozart, the tourist magnet, is everywhere – on postcards, on chocolates, on shop displays, on mementos, on buildings and on tourist buses.

From the accomplished individual musicians and string quartets decked in Mozart-attire and playing for donations at street corners, to Mozart look-alikes pushing tickets for well, a Mozart concert, the great composer is omnipresent. There are the colourful traditional coffeehouses whose association with music and Mozart goes back centuries and there are the weekly organ concerts where orchestras and opera singers transport their audiences to the "real time" Mozart era.

Not to mention the four-storeyed Mozarthaus, an exclusive museum dedicated to the man and his music. Then, there's a man dressed like Mozart selling Wien sausages on the street and yes, there's even a toilet at the subway station that plays Mozart's notes.

## Sao Joao celebration ignites cultural spirit at Arossim-Cansaulim



to deliver messages echoing themes of hope, repentance, and renewal. A Koppel-making contest showcased intricately crafted floral crowns, while a Sao Joao attire contest highlighted traditional costumes in a display that blended artistry with cultural pride. In another highlight, a traditional sweet dish competition saw each ward compete by presenting an array of homemade delights.

The cultural canvas of the evening was painted with ward-wise performances featuring folk dances, melodious songs, and lively skits. Amid these activities, traditional games and interactive contests engaged participants across all age groups. Sao Joao birthday cake was cut, a symbolic gesture that reinforced the significance of St John the Baptist's birth and the unity it inspires. DJ Reev's beats concluded the evening that was compered by Avrel Fernandes.

St Lawrence Chapel played host to an evening of exuberant celebrations honouring Sao Joao, the feast marking the birthday of St John the Baptist. Organised by the dynamic St Lawrence Youth, the event brought together parishioners for an evening that expertly balanced reverence, creativity, and community unity. The festivities commenced with a solemn prayer service led by Fr Myron Jason Barreto, the chapel's chaplain. "The event is organised to bring unity and collaboration among the parishioners. The birth of St John the Baptist brought happiness. Let us spread this happiness in this event," he declared, setting a tone of reflective joy and communal camaraderie.

A vibrant ward-wise parade unfolded soon after, with each community unit presenting a unique tableau of Sao

Joao traditions. Participants adorned in traditional attire filled the procession with a splash of colour and heritage. Notably, every ward featured a figure dressed as St John the Baptist, who took center stage



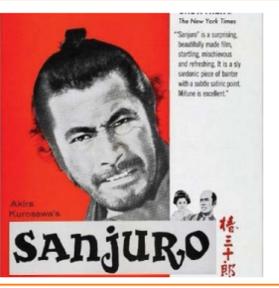
## Celebrating the feast of St John at Curchorem



Sao Joao Batistacho Dobazo, an annual feast of Sao Joao was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Curchorem by organising various cultural programmes by Guardian Angel Catechetical Association in the church premises.

The celebration began in the presence of Parish Priest Fr Jose Caetano D'Costa and assistant parish priest Fr Ashliff Correia and a large number of parishioners with prayer service and a prayer dance by the catechetical students. Many parishioners including

children putting colourful 'Kopel' (headgear) on their head participated in various cultural activities. Short skits and musical band performances by the students were part of the festivity. Later, traditional sweets were distributed among the revellers.



### FILM SCREENING

Cinephile Film Club are screening the Japanese film, "Sanjuro" (1962, 95 mins, with English subtitles) directed by Akira Kurosawa. One of the samurai classics, Kurosawa's Sanjuro has the legendary Toshiro Mifune in the lead role, and this was a follow-up to the highly successful 'Yojimbo' (1961). The story revolves around a Samurai warrior who helps a young man and his buddies to save an uncle who has been framed. The film holds a 100 percent

rating on Rotten Tomatoes and consensus reads, "Technically impressive and superbly acted, Sanjuro is a funny, action-packed samurai adventure featuring outstanding cinematography and a charismatic performance from Toshiro Mifune." The film was shot in scope and is a treat to watch on the big screen. Venue: Maquinez Palace, Old GMC, Panjim Date: June 26 Time: 6.30 pm

## Herald Gaming Console



crossword 4881

ACROSS  
1- Not fem; 5- Aquarium building; 10- Dove sounds; 14- Canyon comeback; 15- Conductor Solti; 16- Bed-and-breakfasts; 17- Asian sea; 18- Is Born; 19- Nair rival; 20- Mark given for offense; 22- Decapitates; 24- One of a D.C. hundred; 25- Scot's cap; 26- Burn with water; 29- crossroads; 32- Fenced areas; 36- Ingrid's "Casablanca" role; 37- Log-on need; 39- Get a move on; 40- In spite of; 43- Compass point opposite WSW; 44- Land, as a fish; 45- Swenson of Benson; 46- Caravansary; 48- Dundee denial; 49- Salivate; 50- NATO member; 52- Theatrical hint; 53- Hearing distance; 57- Voted into a seat; 61- Pub potables; 62- Lover of Juliet; 64- Cafeteria carrier; 65- Singer Tennessee; 66- Implements; 67- Entice; 68- Fit to ...; 69- Licorice-like flavoring; 70- Cravings;

DOWN  
1- Anthropologist Margaret; 2- Farm unit; 3- Fake; 4- Cabbage salad; 5- Anew; 6- we forget.; 7- Obtained; 8- Member of a largely Middle Eastern people; 9- Plumbed heron; 10- Picture theater; 11- Draft classification; 12- Like a line, briefly; 13- Concordes, e.g.; 21- Checkers side; 23- Surprise Symphony" composer; 26- Trig functions; 27- Duplicate; 28- Fall bloomer; 29- White as

a ghost; 30- Physicist Nikola; 31- Bandleader Shaw; 33- Thick-skinned charger; 34- Wild dog of Australia; 35- George of 'Just Shoot Me'; 37- Salt Lake City athlete; 38- McKellen or Holm; 41- Whiskey type; 42- Firsthand; 47- Outback resident; 49- Expected; 51- Main blood vessel; 52- Hard to call; 53- I could ... horse; 54- Very much; 55- Russo of 'Ransom'; 56- Roger Rabbit, e.g.; 57- Electric fish; 58- Loyal; 59- Deserve; 60- Changes color; 65- Miss Piggy's query;

sudoku 4881

	2		7					
6	3		9				7	
					6	2		1
			3	6				
9	5	4		1	3			2
				5	9			
5	4	7						
	9					8		1
				1				5

Instructions for Sudoku

9 x 9 letter: To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes

solution 4880

8	2	4	6	5	3	9	1	7
1	5	7	9	2	4	8	6	3
9	6	3	7	8	1	2	5	4
4	9	6	2	7	8	1	3	5
3	1	2	4	9	5	6	7	8
7	8	5	3	1	6	4	9	2
6	4	1	8	3	7	5	2	9
5	3	9	1	4	2	7	8	6
2	7	8	5	6	9	3	4	1