

VIENA – 26th TO 31st OF MAI 2014

The main purpose of this trip was that we wanted a concert with [Johann Strauss Orchestra](#) and [André Rieu](#). We have heard a lot of that orchestra on You Tube, but we'd like to hear it "live". We decided this the summer of 2013, about a year earlier. The orchestra travels around and is performing all over the world. We tried to find a concert near Norway in May 2014. We looked at Malmo, Copenhagen, Odense and Herning, but everything was full. Therefore, it was Vienna.

This time we traveled by bus from Kongsvinger Station. Down to the station we took a taxi. We ordered the taxi the day before, nevertheless they managed to come so late that we almost missed the bus.



After we had been through security we had prawn sandwiches at the Seafood Bar.

From Oslo we traveled with Norwegian. We often use Norwegian, because they have many direct flights to places we have traveled to. Moreover, they have fairly reasonable prices. We landed at [Vienna International Airport](#), located southeast of the city. It is the largest airport in Austria. From there we took a taxi over to the hotel.

We have been in Vienna earlier, in the summer of 2011. Then we traveled by train to various capitals in Europe. [Link](#) to this travelogue.



We had booked in [Atlantis Hotel Vienna](#) via [Booking.com](#). It is only approx. 300 meters from the [Wiener Stadthalle](#), where the concert was going to be.

The room was fine and there was a terrace outside.



Vienna and Danube seen from [Leopoldsdberg](#).

After breakfast on Tuesday the 27th, we took a taxi over to Schönbrunn Palace. We had not been there when we visited Vienna the last time. The following interior images are scanned from the calendar we bought in the castle.

This is because it was not allowed to take pictures inside the palace.

In 1569 the German-Roman Emperor [Maximilian II](#) bought a large area called Katterburg. The new name as the area got, Schönbrunn ("beautiful well"), originates from a well that provided water to the palace in Vienna. The construction of the palace began in 1696, and after three years the first event was held in the middle section.



In front of the gate.



Outside on the street is a large square.



Here we look down the street that runs off one wing.



In the palace square.



One of the wings of the castle seen from the castle square.



Here we see the Castle Square towards the entrance.



The front of the palace.



It is possible to rent a horse carriage.



A picture of the castle from Castle Square.



From the empress's salon.



Marie Antoinette's room with a table set for dinner.



The children's room.



The breakfast cabinet.



The mirrors room.



The yellow salon.



The large rosa room.



Great Gallery.



Small Gallery.



Vieux-Laque room.



Rich room.



Now we are outside again and are walking in the park at the back of the castle.



Lots of trees and flowers.



A walkway with vines over the "roof".



A park area with a pavilion in the background.



The pavilion.



A fountain.



Ducks.



The trees are cut in the top to the same height.



Rose bushes.



Crow and raven.



Anne Berit is also coming along.



The church Santa Maria Geburt lies right outside the palace area.



This is the Palm House with botanical gardens with different growth zones.



The garden at the end of the Palm House.



Now we have walked outside the zoo and has come to the Neptune Fountain.





Another picture of the fountain.



One of the entrances to the zoo.



Right inside the entrance is this restaurant.



Here we needed a couple of beers.



A last glimpse of the Neptun fountain before we walk up the hill to Gloriette.



Up in the hill we get a better view of the palace.



Up at [Gloriette](#). It was built in 1775. It was used as a dining hall and festival hall and also as the breakfast room for [Emperor Franz Joseph I](#).



From the top we get a good view of the palace.



On the way down the hill we passed this statue of Heracles.



Another fountain, the obelisk fountain.



One of the figures in the fountain.



Roman ruins.



Statues in the Roman ruins.



Then back at the palace.



After we got back to the hotel from the palace, it began to rain heavily, so when we went out to eat at night, we had to use our umbrellas. We went to the nearest restaurant which was this, [Kai's Asian Restaurant](#). They had a lot on the menu and the food was good.

Photos from the restaurant's website.

The next day, Friday the 28th, it rained almost all day, so we stayed mostly indoors and relaxed.

We went to eat at [Restaurant Mader](#) later in the afternoon.

A few photos from the restaurant's website below.



The next day, Friday the 29th, we were going to a concert with [André Rieu](#). The concert was in the evening, so we ate at Kai's Asian Restaurant before we went there. The concert was to be held in the [Wiener Stadthalle](#). It's really several halls with room for about 16,000 people.



Above are a couple of pictures of Wiener Stadthalle seen from the outside.
Below are some pictures from the concert.





The last day, Friday the 30th, we had decided that we would take a cruise on the Danube.



This is the boat that went on the trip we would take. It's called [MS Blue Danube](#). We were traveling with a company called [DDSG Blue Danube](#).



This is a map of the tour we took. The trip took 3 hours.



After we had bought the ticket, it was a while to wait, so we had a beer at the bar in the terminal building in the meantime.



Here we have started the trip.



The Danube is not blue but gray.



District heating plant Spittelau.



MS Vindobona belongs to the same company, which we traveled with.



Here we are approaching the upper sluice. Here, the boat is raised from the channel, so that it can go out on the Danube.



Fishing by the channel side.



Into the first lock.



Out on the [Danube](#).



Donauturm.



DC-tower.

This is one of two towers. The second one will be constructed once the first one is completely finished.



Kirche zum heiligen Franz von Assisi.



Imaginative decoration.



A large cruise ship.



This hotel is [Hilton Vienna Danube Waterfront](#).



[The Millennium tower](#) is 171 m high. It's essentially an office building.



This is Marina Vienna, one of the stops on the tour.



The Peace Pagoda in Vienna. There is similar pagodas in many cities across the world.



[Wien harbor in Freudenu.](#)



Now we come to the bottom lock. Here, the boat lowered back down to the channel level.



A large cruise ship is entering the lock behind us.



Draining water out of the locks has begun.



The water is out and the lower gates open.



The lock gates are open and the boat can run out of the lock.



We're going into the canal behind the lighthouse.



Here we look into the channel



We're headed here.



The large cruise ship continues on down the Danube.



There are many huts along the canal in this area. It appears that there are many who fish along the canal.



There is a catamaran that is passing us from behind.



It is disappearing quickly.

After we were done with this tour we took a taxi over to the hotel to retrieve suitcases, and then on to the airport. The plane was so late at night that it was past midnight when we arrived at Gardermoen. We therefore had booked accommodation on [Radisson Blue Airport Hotel](#).



After we had eaten breakfast at the hotel on Saturday, we took the shuttle bus back to Kongsvinger and taxi from the station and home.