

MUSIC TOUR OF CENTRAL EUROPE

DAY 1: Arrival in Prague

Transfer from Prague airport to the hotel. Check into your hotel and overnight in Prague.

DAY 2: Prague

Prague is literally a golden city thanks to its rich history and culture of arts. The morning tour will show you the main sites of Prague like the Prague Castle district. This tour begins at Loretto Square in the Castle's district. From this square we will enjoy a walking tour to the Archbishop's Palace in renaissance style with a rococo facade and continues to the Hradčany hall, the entrance to the Castle. And walk through the Golden Lane. After having visited this we will continue through Karlova street. This street leads to the Square of the Knights of the Cross by Charles Bridge. After the tour you will have some free time for lunch and discovering the city on your own. In the afternoon you will meet the tour leader again to transfer you to the church or alternative venue, where the concert will take place. Overnight in Prague.

Day 3: Prague

Today you will take you on a full-day sightseeing tour of Prague, one of the most interesting and beautiful cities in Central Europe. Your walking tour will include a visit to Wenceslas Square, the medieval Charles Bridge adorned with its many Baroque figures, St. Nicholas' Church and Prague Castle, which was built in the 9th Century. On entering the castle you will see St. Vitus' Cathedral and the 16th Century Golden Lane. This was once the merchant's quarter, consisting of small town houses built into the castle walls. It was here, at No. 22, that Franz Kafka lived and wrote. You will also visit Josefov. Overnight stay in Prague.

Day 4: Prague - Krakow

Meet your tour leader and a driver at the hotel and transfer from Prague to Krakow. Arrival to Krakow and check in at the hotel. Overnight in Krakow.

Day 5- Krakow tour + concert

The morning will be filled with a half day walking tour of Krakow. Having escaped destruction during World War II, the city uniquely retains its charming medieval shape. The central Market Square – the largest in Europe – is where several of the city's architectural and cultural landmarks can be found, and also where the life of the city focuses. In the middle of the square there is the Cloth Hall (Sukiennice, 14th c.), today hosting gallery of Polish paintings on the first floor, and there is a market selling local artefacts and souvenir on the ground floor. Opposite the Cloth Hall is St. Mary's Church, world-famous for its altar carved by Wit Stwosz. Krakow is also a university centre with the Jagiellonian University founded in 1364 – one of the oldest in Europe. Collegium Maius – the oldest university building, today the University Museum, is located near the Market Square. The Royal Route leads along Grodzka Street up to Wawel Hill from which the Royal Residence and the Cathedral overlook the Vistula River. Wawel Castle is an interesting example of Renaissance architecture, which houses one of the largest collections of tapestries in Europe. The Cathedral was the coronation place of many Polish kings, and their last resting place. Other must-see monuments include Barbican, Florianska Gate, and numerous churches, each rich in history. After the tour you will have some free time for lunch and discovering the city on your own. In the afternoon you will meet the tour leader again to transfer you to the church or alternative venue, where the concert will take place. After evening concert at one of the most beautiful churches in Krakow, you will return to the hotel.

Day 6 - Wieliczka Salt Mine excursion

After breakfast you will be taken for a half day excursion to Wieliczka Salt Mine.

This unique phenomenon was once described as being 'as remarkable as the Pyramids and more useful'! Today it is a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage monument and one of the most renowned attractions in the Krakow area. The guided tour commences 65m underground and leads through rooms, passages and great chambers to a depth of 135m. Highlights include the stunning colors of the underground lake and the beautiful Kinga's Chapel, a remarkable underground 'cathedral' where every feature is carved from the solid salt! There's even an underground post office made of salt too!

In case of choirs, we are able to arrange short recital straight after the tour in the beautiful Kinga's Chapel. After the tour return to Krakow. Additionally we would like to offer splendid cottage restaurant serving delicious polish cuisine with a folklore show.

Day 7: Krakow - Vienna

After breakfast you will departure towards Vienna. Check in at the hotel and overnight in Vienna.

Day 8: Vienna

Breakfast. Your Jewish tour of Vienna begins in the Leopoldstadt area, once the center of Jewish life, and the place where many famous Jewish personalities were born or lived. Continue to the site where the Gestapo Headquarters once stood, where you will begin your walking tour of Jewish life in the past and present. Visit Vienna's only surviving pre-war Synagogue, the Stadtempel, which today also houses the Community Offices and Chief Rabbinate. Then, walk towards Judenplatz, where Medieval Jewish traditions and presence thrived until 1421, when the City Temple was destroyed. Today, this vast open square is dominated by the touching new Holocaust Memorial; several prominent Jewish organizations have returned to the surrounding buildings. Along squares and narrow quaint streets, see Vienna's most impressive landmark, St. Stephen's Cathedral, before arriving at the Jewish Museum. Besides its rich collection of Judaica, the Museum also chronicles the story of Viennese Jewry and their impact on the development of this city.

Possible concert at the venue in Vienna. Overnight in Vienna.

Day 9: Vienna - Bratislava – Budapest

Today you will travel to Budapest, and on the way we suggest passing through Bratislava, which stands on the banks of the Danube and is just 60 km from Vienna. Your time in Slovakia's capital city will take in Bratislava castle, dating from the 14th-15th Centuries and situated on a granite hill, the ruins of Devin castle and the gothic St. Martin's Cathedral, which for 300 years served as the place of coronation for the Kings of Hungary. You will also be able to admire the gothic Franciscan Church, the gothic town hall with its 16th Century Roland's fountain, and Grassalkovich Palace – the current seat of the President of Slovakia.

Overnight stay in Budapest.

Day 10: Budapest

Today we offer you a full-day sightseeing tour of Budapest. The Danube River divides the city in two: old Buda with its Castle Hill on one side, and cosmopolitan Pest with its grand boulevards and fine shops on the other. Both parts reflect a rich and varied past closely intertwined with the Hapsburg Empire. However the natural spirit of the Magyar tribe which settled in the area over a thousand years ago developed a unique culture, as the heart and soul of the country resides in its people. During your walking tour you will visit Castle Hill and the Old Town, Matthias Church and the Royal Castle. Also worth seeing are Gellert Hill with its Freedom Monument and 19th Century citadel, the Hungarian Parliament and the Vajdahunyad castle complex. In the afternoon you will have an opportunity to take a ship cruise on the Danube.

Possible concert at the venue in Budapest. Overnight stay in Budapest.

Day 11: Budapest departure

Return home from Budapest