

Wine Tasting Tour: Austria-Czech Republic-Hungary: **9 days/8 nights - Scheduled travel dates Spring 2013*:** **21.May - 29.May / 4.June - 12.June**

* may be amended slightly / travel dates for autumn on request



Photo: Wine Marketing Austria

Wine Tasting Tour / Austria-Czech Republic-Hungary ***9 Days / 8 Nights*** **From March to June & September to end of October**

Day 1:

Flight to Vienna

Luxury bus ride to the wine region of Wachau during which time there will be a brief introduction into Austria's wine industry and the economy. First on the agenda will be the wine museum "Loisium" in Langenlois, which will include an audio guided tour and a small wine tasting. Following on from this, will be a visit and tasting at the wine co-operative of Wachau. Check-In for 3 nights at Gasthof Prankl, Spitz
Dinner at Wachauerhof in Spitz.

Day 2:

After treating you to the first Austrian breakfast of the tour, we will be heading off by bus down the Danube. The first stop of the day will be to do a wine tasting at Holzapfel Estate, and then onto "Donauhof" in Weissenkirchen for a light lunch.

The afternoon wine tour will include the highly accoladed wineries of Franz Hirtzberger in Spitz and F.X.Pichler in Loiben.

A dinner incorporating "dishes" of the region will be put on for us at the "Klosterhof" Restaurant in Spitz. Overnight "Gasthof Prankl".

Day 3:

Following breakfast we will again "hit" the road by bus and head off to visit the further 4 top wineries in the Wachau; firstly Franz Prager in Weissenkirchen and Jamek Estate in Joching.

A light meal will be put on for us at Restaurant "Richard Löwenherz", after which we will head onto Leo Alzinger Estate in Unterloiben and Rudi Pichler in Wosendorf. Dinner will be provided at the "Wachau" Hotel/Restaurant in Spitz. Overnight "Gasthof Prankl".

Day 4:

After breakfast, we will be taking a short bus trip across into the Czech Republic to visit a beautiful castle, very close to the Austrian border, where 100 of the best (salon)wines of the country are cellared and selected annually. In the 2 ½ hours we are there, there will be time to taste through this exquisite collection. During the afternoon we will return across the border to Lake Neusiedl on the east side of Austria, where we are going to do a tasting with Birgit Braunstein, and afterwards enjoy a mouth-watering evening meal at her famous inn. Overnight "Weingasthof Braunstein".

Day 5:

After breakfast we will be visiting Prieler Estate in Schutzen. Following on from this, a short diversion will take us at Restaurant Henrici for a lunch and after that to Esterhazy Castle where we will have a chance to look at another famous wine museum and take part in a short wine-tasting. In the afternoon it is planned to return to Lake Neusiedl for another tasting at Feiler-Artinger in Rust. Dinner will be provided at "Turkenkeller" Restaurant in Purbach. Overnight "Weingasthof Braunstein"

Day 6:

After a full breakfast we will head to the Eastern side of the lake for a visit to Heinrich Estate in Gols. A lunch put on for us by the "Zur Dankbarkeit" inn. During the afternoon we will be dropping into Pittnauer Estate in Gols and Umathum Estate in Frauenkirchen. In the evening we will be dining on the seaside terrace of the "Mole West" Restaurant in Neusiedl. Overnight "Weingasthof Braunstein".

Day 7:

After breakfast and an early Check-Out we will head out towards Lake Balaton in Hungary (more-or-less to Balatonederics) where we will be based for a day, thus enabling us to visit 3 or 4 of the best wineries of the region. First on the list will be AX winery where a snack will also be provided. During the afternoon, depending on time, we hope to visit at least 2 other wineries. A typical Hungarian meal will be enjoyed by all during the evening in our Hotel.

Day 8:

After breakfast we will be crossing back over the border to Austria to a small town called Leibnitz, where we will Check-In at the Seggau castle. There will be a wine tasting at Tement Estate and a light lunch will be provided at the adjacent "Magnothek" tavern. The afternoon wine tour will include Georgiberg Estate in Berghausen and Polz Estate in Spielfeld. Berghausen's "top" tavern "Steinberghof-Firmenich" will be putting on some traditional food for us during the evening.

Day 9:

After our last breakfast and checking out we will head off to do a wine tasting and guided tour - "Big Pleasurable Experience" - at the Vinofaktur in Ehrenhausen. (This venue is also well known for its displays of all kinds of other comestibles from around the area i.e. oil, vinegar, chocolate, schnapps and honey).

From there we will arrange transfers to airport/train station - time permitting, we might be able to fit in a visit to a winery in Vienna.

Services:

- All transfers in a modern and luxury bus with air conditioning.
- 8 nights in hotel/inn with breakfast included, based on two people sharing.
- Snacks while visiting AXS winery in Kethely
- Five exclusive 2 course lunches (not including drinks) at:
 - Restaurant DONAUHOF
 - Hotel-Restaurant RICHARD LÖWENHERZ
 - Restaurant HENRICI
 - Gasthof „ZUR DANKBARKEIT“
 - "MAGNOTHEK", Tavern

Continuation of Services:

- Eight exclusive 3 course dinners (not including drinks) at:
 - Restaurant WACHAUERHOF
 - Restaurant KLOSTERHOF
 - WEINHOTEL WACHAU
 - Weingasthof BRAUNSTEINER
 - Restaurant TÜRKENKELLER
 - Restaurant MOLE WEST
 - Hotel JAGDHOF
 - Buschenschank STEINBERGHOF-FIRMENICH
- "Loisium", audio guided wine museum tour and small wine tasting.
- "Vinofaktur", guided tour.
- Private tours and tastings at 23 selected wineries/tasting centres.
- Provision for the services of a sommelier/wine expert guide throughout the wine tour.
- All taxes included

Whats Not Included:

- Flights
- Meals and Drinks not Specified
- Personal Expenses such as Telephone, Minibar, etc
- Tips and Gratuities (Guides, Restaurants, etc)
- Travel Insurance (Strongly recommended)
- Cancellation Insurance

Travel: Meet at Vienna: (on the basis of 15 People)

€ 2938,--per person double occupancy

€ 3106,- single occupancy

Due to limited availability, please make your travel arrangements as soon as possible.

Operator: COLUMBUS Reisen GmbH, Vienna

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