



## **NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS IN SALZBURG** **THURSDAY 29 DECEMBER 2016 TO MONDAY 2 JANUARY 2017**

NICHOLAS FRIEND

On 27 January 1756, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg to one of Europe's leading music teachers, the composer Leopold Mozart, and his wife Anna Maria Pertl Mozart. Under his father's zealous instruction, by his sixth birthday, Wolfgang had become competent on clavier, organ keyboard and violin, composed his first work, and performed for European royalty. His birthplace, a prosperous independent city on the Northern boundary of the Alps, was the capital of the sovereign Archbishopric of Salzburg, then part of the Holy Roman Empire.

In 696 AD St Rupert established what eventually became the largest monastery in the German-speaking world, St Peter's Abbey. In 1077, Archbishop Gebhard built his principal residence in a mighty fortress. Fine Romanesque abbeys and churches followed, with Salzburg's Cathedral of St Vergilius and St Rupert becoming the largest and most magnificent basilica north of the Alps. By the 17c the city was equipped with resplendent ecclesiastical and municipal baroque buildings. Also sustained by the beauty and energy of the city, the composer Josef Haydn, the writer Stefan Zweig, the poet Georg Trakl and the conductor, Herbert von Karajan lived here. It is a very inspiring place indeed.

With its snow-capped mountain setting, intimate medieval streets, dramatic Baroque facades, and, above all, its superlative musical tradition, there could be few more fitting places to spend New Year's Eve than in Salzburg. We have arranged to attend a Mozart concert in the Archbishops' Alte Residenz; a New Year's Eve concert in the magnificent Marble Hall of the Schloss Mirabell; a pre-concert reception and splendid New Year's Eve dinner in the candlelit dining room of the grand, historic Hotel Sacher with a phenomenal ringside view of fireworks; a New Year's Day concert of Dvorak and Tchaikovsky in the Festspielhaus, and private visits to view hidden treasures of the town as well as specialist visits to the Mozart Wohnhaus where Mozart lived for a time, and the Mozart Geburtshaus, where Mozart was born. Each day we will hear sublime music, including compositions by masters: Vivaldi, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Dvorak, Tchaikovsky and Strauss. Our meals and coffee breaks will be taken in Salzburg's most treasured restaurants and coffee houses.

#### THURSDAY 29 DECEMBER

- 08.30 Meet Nicholas Friend at London Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5
- 10.20 Flight leaves Heathrow, independent lunch on the plane
- 1.10 Flight arrives Munich, private minibus to Salzburg
- 4.00 Arrive Salzburg Hotel Elefant
- 7.00 Group dinner in the Hotel restaurant: Restaurant "S'Nockerl"
- 8.30 Optional post-prandial walk of old town with NF

#### FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER

- 09.15 Leave for St Peter's Abbey
- 09.30 Visit St Peter's Abbey Church and Museum with Father Virgil, Museum Curator
- 11.00 Group coffee Cafe Tomaselli
- 11.45 Specialist guided visit of Mozart Birthplace
- 1.00 Group lunch at K+K Restaurant
- 2.30 Walk to Alte Residenz for concert by Salzburg Mozart Players
- 3.00 Concert in Alte Residenz
- 4:00 Group tea in Sarastro
- 5.00 Private visit St Peter's Abbey Music Archive with Father Petrus, Music Archivist
- 6.30 Dinner in St Peter's Stiftskeller

#### SATURDAY 31 DECEMBER

- 09:30 Leave for Cathedral and Cathedral Museum
- 11.00 Group coffee at Kaffee-Alchemie
- 11.45 Specialist guided visit of Mozart Wohnhaus
- 12:30 Private visit to Autograph Vault with Dr Brinzing, Director of Bibliotheca Mozartiana
- 1.30 Group lunch in Kaffee Classic
- 3.00 Return to hotel to rest
- 6.30 New Year's Eve Reception in Hotel Sacher
- 7.30 Leave for Schloss Mirabell.
- 7.40 Arrive Schloss Mirabell
- 8.00 Concert in Schloss Mirabell
- 9.30 Concert ends, return to Hotel Sacher
- 9.45 New Year's Eve Dinner with midnight champagne and fireworks

#### SUNDAY 1 JANUARY 2017

- 10.15 Walk to Festspielhaus
- 11.00 Concert in Festspielhaus
- 12.30 Group lunch in Restaurant Herzl, Goldener Hirsch Hotel
- 2.00 Return to hotel, free afternoon
- 7.00 Taxis to Restaurant Brunnauer
- 7:30 Group dinner at Restaurant Brunnauer

#### MONDAY 2 JANUARY 2017

- 09.30 Walk to Salzburg Residenz
- 10.00 Hidden Treasures Tour of Salzburg Residenz
- 12.15 Final group lunch in hotel restaurant S'Nockerl
- 1.45 Private minibus to Munich Airport
- 3.45 Arrive Munich airport
- 5.45 Flight leaves for London
- 6.55 Flight arrives London Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5



## **HOTEL ELEFANT**

SIGMUND-HAFFNER-GASSE 4, 5020

SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

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A small hotel in the heart of Salzburg tucked into a narrow side street off the Getreidegasse, Salzburg's famous, colorful shopping street, Hotel Elefant offers fully renovated and comfortable accommodation, a restaurant, and a warmth of welcome by the Mayr family who for several generations have owned it. The hotel, named for an elephant brought over the Brenner Pass in 1552 as a gift to the Emperor Maximilian II, is over 700 years old and has been documented as an inn for the past 400 years. Mozart's birthplace and the Festival Hall can be reached within a few steps from the Hotel Elefant. Mirabell Castle, the Hohensalzburg Fortress and the other side of the UNESCO city centre district, the Altstadt, are only 650 feet away.

**COST** £2125 Members, £2175 non-Members, £195 SRS. Deposit £500, includes flights London-Munich-London, private coach transfers to Salzburg, four nights' accommodation at the Hotel Elefant, all breakfasts, all coffees and teas, all lunches, all dinners with wine in Salzburg's best restaurants including New Year's Eve reception and dinner in the Sacher Hotel, three concerts, all entries, guided tours and private visits, tuition, the services of Edda Irvine, a most excellent Inscape tour manager, gratuities and VAT.