

## Experience Salzburg in full bloom

*Every spring, the entire town becomes a stage*

***In Salzburg, nature, culture, cuisine and customs are front and centre in spring: high culture meets electronic beats, new worlds of taste open up at the Culinary Festival and the Literature Festival allows writers to interact with their readers. The Easter celebrations and the traditional Maypole raising festival are ideal occasions to experience Salzburg's customs.***

In spring, Salzburg has a vibrant atmosphere. The town, with its historic churches, squares and buildings, is particularly impressive to experience on foot. The City Walks invite visitors to explore Salzburg and offer a variety of themed routes. Those who wish to see the town and its surroundings from a different perspective can also take to the water. From 1 April, the boat tours on the river Salzach with the Amadeus will once again be on offer. A visit to Hellbrunn Palace with its trick fountains, which reopen at the end of March, is quite literally a refreshing experience. The pleasure palace was commissioned by Prince-Archbishop Markus Sittikus, whose 450th birthday is being celebrated in 2024.

### **New opera productions and electronic beats**

The Salzburg Easter Festival is the first cultural highlight in spring. This year, it takes its audience on a musical journey to Italy. The Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia from Rome with chief conductor Sir Antonio Pappano opens the festival with a new production of Amilcare Ponchielli's rarely performed opera *La Gioconda*. Celebrated soprano Anna Netrebko will be singing alongside star tenor Jonas Kaufmann. New dance and electronic projects will also be continued in 2024. British DJ Max Cooper's performance brings the sounds of Italy together with electronic beats. The Salzburg Whitsun Festival also offers a brilliant programme entitled *Tutto Mozart*, all about the Town's most famous son. One of the highlights is Robert Carsen's new production of *La Clemenza di Tito*. Since February, the recently relocated Salzburg Festival archive, one of the most extensive theatre archives still preserved in Austria, has offered an insight into more than 100 years of Festival history.

- **Salzburg Easter Festival**, 22 March to 1 April 2024: <https://osterfestspiele.at/en/>
- **Salzburg Whitsun Festival**, 17 to 21 May 2024: <https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/en/>
- **Salzburg Festival Archive**: <https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/en/landingpage-archive>

### **A variety of treats beyond the grand stages**

At the *eat&meet* culinary festival, Salzburg restaurateurs will spoil visitors with creations made from exotic products grown and bred locally with the motto *Local Exotics*. The 45th edition of *aspekteSALZBURG*, one of the most renowned festivals for new music in Austria, promises rich and surprising sounds. The programme entitled *Voices* features unique

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ensembles and vocal artists. One of the highlights is the world premiere of the semi-staged opera *Stabat Mater Furiosa* by Egyptian composer Hossam Mahmoud.

Salzburg's Running Festival turns the town into a stage for sport. The springtime townscape provides an impressive backdrop for a wide variety of competitions, from the women's run to the marathon. The five-day Salzburg Literature Festival, on the other hand, is a fantastic way to keep your mind moving. Language and music come together at readings, literary walks and concerts.

- **Culinary festival "eat&meet"**, 29 February to 29 March 2024: [www.salzburg-alt-stadt.at/de/eat-meet](http://www.salzburg-alt-stadt.at/de/eat-meet)
- **aspekteFESTIVAL Salzburg**, 6 to 10 March 2024: [www.aspekte-salzburg.com](http://www.aspekte-salzburg.com)
- **Salzburger running festival**, 5 to 12 May 2024: [www.salzburg-marathon.at](http://www.salzburg-marathon.at)
- **Literature Festival Salzburg**, 22 to 26 May 2024: [www.literaturfest-salzburg.at](http://www.literaturfest-salzburg.at)

### Experience living customs and traditions

The Easter holidays are the perfect time to experience springtime Salzburg and its wonderful traditions. The beautifully decorated "palm bushes" made from evergreen branches are blessed on Palm Sunday and then placed in the fields to pray for a rich harvest. At Easter markets and weekly markets, particularly beautiful, hand-decorated Easter eggs are sold. Children enjoy Easter egg hunts – such as the one at the Salzburg Open Air Museum. At the beginning of May, it's that time again: the Maypoles are raised with pure manpower, accompanied by big celebrations with music and dancing. Traditional costume is still a highly valued cultural asset in Salzburg, both on festive occasions and in everyday life. In the town of Salzburg, numerous traditional costume manufacturers, from old-established businesses to young designers, present their varied collections.

- Palm bush making at the Salzburger Heimatwerk, 22 to 23 March 2024: [www.salzburger-heimatwerk.at](http://www.salzburger-heimatwerk.at)
- Easter market at the Salzburg Open-Air Museum 23 March 2024: [www.freilichtmuseum.com](http://www.freilichtmuseum.com)
- Maypole celebration at the Salzburg Open-Air Museum, 1 May 2024: [www.freilicht-museum.com](http://www.freilicht-museum.com)

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