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National Geographic Traveler: Vienna



Synopsis

From Vienna's old town to the outer districts, from the city's charming, eclectic neighborhoods to Danube Island, *National Geographic Traveler: Vienna* guides you to the better- and lesser-known sights of one of Europe's most popular cities. In between, you'll discover the cultural and natural treasures Vienna has to offer--including its palaces and architectural gems, local markets and events, and the beautiful parks and gardens throughout the city. Among the special features of *National Geographic Traveler: Vienna* are sidebars detailing experiences throughout the city, to make sure that you get to know the culture, and the people, inside and out. You can learn to make traditional Viennese fare (think schnitzel and apple strudel), for example, sip wine across the Danube in Stammersdorf, and celebrate the holidays with a trip to Vienna's world-famous Christmas markets. Insider tips, in addition, provided by an array of National Geographic experts--photographers, writers, and grantees who have spent significant time in Vienna--direct you to favorite restaurants, festivals, and other information that only locals know. Guided walks and drives are always a popular feature in our guides, and in *National Geographic Traveler: Vienna*, these include hiking the Kahlenberg for an unforgettable view of the city, strolling along Vienna's back streets, and walking through the forests and meadows of the Prater. To top it off, an extensive Travelwise section at the back of the guide provides hand-picked hotels and restaurants, tour recommendations, and a glossary that covers must-know words.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

British-born travel writer SARAH WOODS is a triple-award-winning author with 10 titles to her name. She has traveled extensively around the globe and is a regular on travel TV and radio world-wide. Woods also contributes to The Sunday Times, The Independent, National Geographic Traveler, and numerous other publications. She has waltzed with Austria's leading dance celebrity, cruised the waters of the Danube, and delved into the inner reaches of Vienna's upcoming districts to discover hidden gems and best-kept cultural secrets.

This guide is recommended for those seeking a decent guide for their trip to Vienna. This is so for a number of reasons. One is that it provides a decent overview of all the sites worthy of seeing in Vienna. Secondly, it provides a ranking of regions in Vienna so a user can determine what sites to see depending on time available. Thirdly, good maps of regions in the city are provided for showing sites to see within regions as well as decent "walkabouts" within those regions (along with recommendations on what to see when walking). The book does have a few negatives though that prevent this reviewer from granting it a five-star rating. The most serious problem, like most National Geographic guides, is that there is no fold out map (or any other) that covers the full city. This makes it difficult to navigate from between the different regions of the city (for which the guide does have good maps for). Plus there is no map of the city's extensive subway system. Hence it is highly recommended purchasing a full map of the city to supplement this guide. As stated previously, there are regional maps of locations within the city, but without a full map it is impossible to navigate from one region to the next. A second problem, albeit minor in comparison to the map problem, is that the book is missing a number of minor details that are of some note. For example, the fact that nearly all museums (unlike those in the Anglo-Saxon nations) require more than trivial entrance fees (typical fees range from 15 to 20 Euros). These add up to quite a bit after a while. In short, despite these problems, a very good guide. Just be sure to purchase a decent map to supplement it.

This guide is very comprehensive, covers all the city districts, is and quite useful for a tourist going to Vienna who plans to stay anywhere from 3 days to 3 weeks. But, beware! The type is small and uses a very light typefont. Hard to read without a magnifier for those with older eyes. The book is also a bit heavy so if weight is a consideration, be warned. The walking tours and sidebars are great, but it is a bit light on places to eat, as though that is a problem in Vienna. The only problem is having your clothes still fit for the 'plane ride home. I suggest that you use this book to plan, in some detail, your stay in Vienna, use a scissors to take the relevant pages out for the trip and get a

"Streetwise Vienna" street map to take along. And do not miss the Sacher Torte at the Hotel Sacher. And for goodness sakes, stop thinking about the Third Man theme!

The only problem is the weight of the book, the kind of paper used. This book is very heavy. I like very much the National Geographic guides. I've used them to Amsterdam, Lisbon, Paris and New York, in Portuguese and they aren't so hefty. I looked for them to Vienna and Prague, but I didn't have it, unluckily. The item: "A walk around ..." is fantastic!!!! I recommend these guides to everyone. They are the best guides I know! (Sorry for my English).

I love all the National Geographic Traveling books. I have a number of them. The color pictures are great and they are full of information that does not date quickly.

Really love Nat Geo travel books and this one is no exception, very useful guide on my next year's trip to Vienna.

It has all useful information for my travel! History, tips and how to know the city. I like it very much!

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