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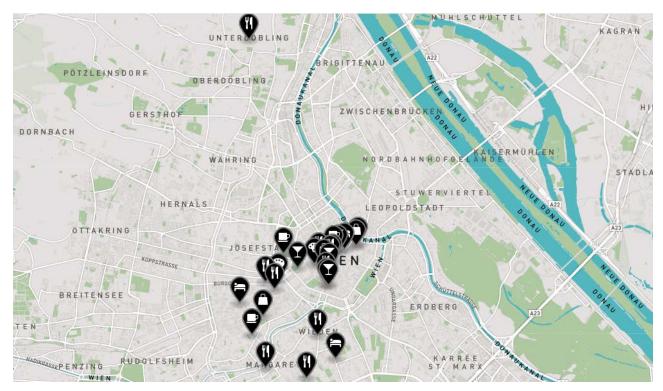
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24 HOURS IN



BY MIRA KOLENC

Vintage Lover | Hobby Confectioner | Columnist



MY PERFECT 24 HOURS IN VIENNA

My perfect day starts with sunshine and a matcha latte in bed. After getting ready, there should be a late breakfast. At the moment, my favourite spots for breakfast with friends are the <u>Ulrich</u> (weekend breakfast till 3pm, during the week till noon), the <u>Kussmaul</u> (weekend breakfast till 4pm, during the week till noon) or <u>The Guesthouse Vienna</u>. The last one is a centrally located hotel with its own brasserie and bakery (breakfast till 11pm every day).

Whenever I have friends in Vienna for a visit I pick them up from one of the hotels or apartments I've recommended to them. There are so many in town that radiate a very special charm. Here are just a few:

Just a few steps from St. Stephen's Cathedral, the **Hotel Lamée** feels like a representative of the city. The interior reflects the stylish glamour of the 1930's and the rooftop terrace has a legendary view.

In the middle of Vienna's 7th district, next to Mariahilferstrasse and between MuseumsQuartier and Westbahnhof, you'll find the tiny but cozy **Hotel am Brillantengrund** which has a lot of retro charm and a beautiful courtyard. The hotel is often a venue for exhibitions, concerts, or flea markets. It's a lively and familiar place, where the young creatives of the city hang out.

<u>Urbanauts</u> is a different kind of hotel. Former shops have been transformed into beautifully decorated hotel rooms. All "Street Lofts" are spread over the 4th district and have a different style each.

The apartment "Mon Bijou" (via Airbnb https://www.airbnb.de/rooms/4150687) is a beautiful and exceptionally decorated apartment owned by the lovely and helpful host Armin. Perfect for a longer stay!

With a full stomach, I would start exploring the city. I always want to know what's going on in town. For the latest gossip in Vienna, you have to visit the Salon **ER-ICH**. It's not just a hair salon, it's a hub for information and a kind of art gallery. Erich Joham, the owner, always knows what's happening in the city. Celebrities, artists, actors, models, philosophers, writers - everybody is here. Come in for a talk and a coffee or for a new haircut.

On a gloomy day, I'd visit the cinema <u>Bellaria</u>. It's a small and old cinema in the Museumsstraße, a side street behind the popular Viennese theatre (Volkstheater). Every afternoon they play old German films to a mostly elderly audience - it feels a little bit like travelling back in time.

I might also have a look at the "Silver Collection" in the **Hofburg**. This is an amazing collection of tableware, used for the running the imperial household. I love these old things and all the stories around them.

If I'm in the mood for a little shopping spree, to spend money on beautiful things with tradition and quality, Vienna is just the spot. Here are some of my favourite shops:

For more than 100 years <u>Altmann & Kühne</u> have been producing hand-manufactured miniature chocolate delights. Their beautifully designed boxes of chocolates are always a perfect gift and the shop has been furnished by star architect, Josef Hofmann. With the original design retained, the building is listed as a historical monument. A must see!

Wilhelm Jungmann & Neffe is a shop for luxurious fabrics and a great place for gentlemen with exquisite taste and a passion for ties, scarves, and other accessories. The shop has been around since 1866 and is still a pleasure to shop in – breathtakingly beautiful!

For special leather goods, visit **R. Horn's Wien**. Robert Horn is a man with humour and excellent taste (plus a love for short trousers with knee highs). Horn's bag designs pay homage to the aesthetics of Otto Wagner, Josef Hoffmann, Adolf Loos, and the Wiener Werkstätte. The result: high-quality, long-lasting,

timeless, and durable leather briefcases, handbags, travel bags, wallets, and accessories for men and women.

<u>Mühlbauer Hutmanufaktur</u> is a fourth generation family business, manufacturing headwear using traditional handcrafting techniques since 1903. They make elegant hats for men and women of the best quality and with great attention to detail.

Ali and Peter are the cutest vintage dealers in town. The **Vintagerie** is not just a store with old and beautiful things, but sometimes it's also a gallery or a bar (with pink champagne!). You're always welcome to come and browse, even if you can't fit any of the beautiful furniture in your tiny apartment.

In the afternoon, it's time for cake or a small lunch. The **Demel** is a good idea, actually it's a must. But the best time for Demel is after New Year's Eve, when Vienna is quiet. From January to February, Vienna (and Demel) belongs to the locals. During this quiet time I love to meet friends and acquaintances here to eat a piece of cake in the late afternoon, preferably in the half-light of the basement.

If it's not immediately after New Year's Eve, there are many other alternatives:

Just behind the town hall, but away from the tourist trails, at **Conditorei Sluka** you'll get perfect service and delicious cakes. In the summertime you can sit outside in the sun, sometimes joined by Austrian actor Peter Weck.

Near the Mariahilferstraße, the big shopping street, you'll find the <u>Café Jelinek</u>. It's a centrally-located old-fashioned café and the perfect spot to write and read. If you want to say hello, you'll find me there hanging on the wall.

Nearby St. Stephen's Cathedral, the <u>Café Korb</u> is a spot where both artists and businessmen hang out. Here you'll find the friendliest waiters in the city there and can enjoy your coffee and "Apfelstrudel" in an atmosphere full of 50's charm. The café is owned by the most glamorous lady in town, Susanne Widl.

If you're craving something salty, there's only one place to go: **Trzesniewski**! These little slices of bread with egg spread are a Viennese specialty. The first shop in Dorotheergasse was opened in 1902 by Franciszek Trzesniewski and it's still a beautiful place. You can take the sandwiches away (in small boxes) or eat them there, along with a "Pfiff" (a very small glass of beer).

If you're really hungry by now and already in the mood for dinner, Vienna will not disappoint:

Zur Herknerin is a straightforward place with Austrian cuisine and a small menu that changes weekly, depending on the season. Love and passion are the most important ingredients for owner Stefanie Herkner, who will always greet you with a warm welcome.

At <u>Rudis Beisl</u> you absolutely must book in advance! (phone: 01/5445102) Here you'll find a typical Viennese atmosphere, wonderful traditional food, and excellent wine. Not to mention, delicious pastries (Mehlspeisen).

The **Woracziczky** is a small restaurant with an unpronounceable name and a somewhat isolated location in the 5th district, but it's the best place for a "Wiener Backhendl" (deep-fried chicken).

My nights out always start with an excellent cocktail in one of my favourite bars. Vienna is very small and chances are you'll meet an acquaintance with a tip on THE (private) party of the night. The most beautiful nights in Vienna are spontaneous. Don't be shy to ask a local for insider tips on nightlife.

The **Roberto American Bar** is one of the newest bars in town and very popular. On weekends it's difficult to find a spot here, but the drinks are excellent and the conversation will never run out.

The **Bonbonniere Bar** is supposedly the oldest bar in Vienna and really worth a visit. Red silk wallpaper, naughty engravings from the 18th century, a lot of crystal, and live piano music every night (from 9pm) is what you'll find.

The **Blaue Bar** in the Hotel Sacher is the best place to go for a last drink after you've been to the theatre, opera, or cinema. And if you want to eat a Sachertorte, then do it here or in the red lobby (also possible during the day).

In summertime you'll often find me in a "Heuriger" - meaning a long night with many bottles of young fresh wine. At the <u>Hengl-Haselbrunner</u> I usually have the cherry or apricot strudel, while sitting in the romantic arcades, or I'm dancing in the <u>Volksgartenpavillon</u>. The little pavilion with its shady garden near Heldenplatz was built in the 1950s by the famous architect Oswald Haerdtl and is a very popular place for warm summer nights. It's also a venue for Lindy Hop dancers (every Monday), special parties like "Das Techno Cafe" (every Tuesday), or "Swell Time – A Mad Man Night Out".

Vienna is very hot in July and August. To cool off the historic thermal spa in **Bad Vöslau** (very close to Vienna and easily accessible by public transport), is the perfect place to go. It's a very glamorous "Sommerfrische" (a hide away in the countryside during a hot summer in the city) - just like ancient times!

Enjoy exploring, Mira

ULRICH

RESTAURANT Sankt-Ulrichs-Platz 1, Wien, Austria www.ulrichwien.at

On weekends they serve breakfast till 3 pm.



KUSSMAUL

RESTAURANT Spittelberggasse 12, Wien, Austria www.kussmaul.at

The Kussmaul not only serves a tasty breakfast, but has a very nice interior too.



THE GUESTHOUSE VIENNA

RESTAURANT

Führichgasse 10, Wien, Austria www.theguesthouse.at

The brasserie and bakery is open all year round and you can have breakfast every day until 11pm.

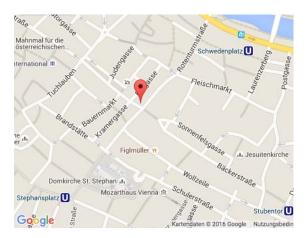


HOTEL LAMEÉ

SLEEP

Rotenturmstraße 15, Wien, Austria www.hotellamee.com

The hotel's interior reflects Vienna perfectly.



HOTEL AM BRILLANTENGRUND

SLEEP

Bandgasse 4, Wien, Austria www.brillantengrund.com/#!home

Not only a beautiful hotel but also a creative hub.



URBANAUTS

SLEEP

Favoritenstraße 17, Wien, Austria www.graetzlhotel.com

Former shops turned into hotel rooms - very unique!



ER-ICH

SHOP

Griechengasse 7, Wien, Austria

So much more than a hair salon, it's actually more of a gossip and news centre ;)



BELLARIA

ARTS & CULTURE

Museumstraße 3, Wien, Austria www.film.at/kino/bellaria_kino

A cinema where you feel like you've travelled back in time!



HOFBURG

ARTS & CULTURE Hofburg, Wien, Austria www.hofburg-wien.at

Gaze at the stunning old tableware from the imperial households.



ALTMANN & KÜHNE

SWEETS Graben 30, 1010 Wien, Austria www.altmann-kuehne.at

Home of chocolate delights since forever!



WILHELM JUNGMANN & NEFFE

SHOP

Albertinaplatz 3, Wien, Ausria www.feinestoffe.at

THE store for real gentlemen and everybody who loves high quality fabrics.

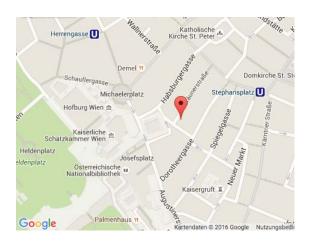


R. HORN'S WIEN

SHOP

Bräunerstraße 7, Wien, Austria www.rhorns.com

High quality leather items.



MÜHLBAUER HUTMANUFAKTUR

SHOP

Franz-Josefs-Kai 15, Wien, Austria www.muehlbauer.at/content

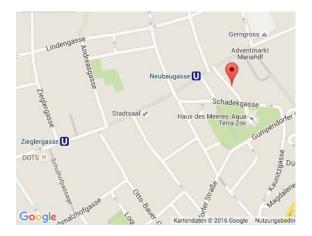
Tastefully designed hats for her and him, since 1903.



VINTAGERIE

SHOP Nelkengasse 4, Wien, Austria www.vintagerie.at

Fabulous vintage furniture and just a nice shop where you can come by to sip a bit of pink champagne.



DEMEL

RESTAURANT Kohlmarkt 14, Wien, Austria www.demel.at/index_flash.htm

Have a piece of cake downstairs and chat with locals.



CONDITOREI SLUKA

CAFÉ

Rathauspl. 8, Wien, Austria www.sluka.at

Away from the touristy paths and perfect for a piece of cake and checking out Austrian celebrities.



CAFÉ JELINEK

CAFÉ

Otto-Bauer-Gasse 5, Wien, Austria www.cafejelinek.steman.at

A cozy, old-fashioned café.



CAFÉ KORB

CAFÉ

Brandstätte 9, Wien, Austria www.cafekorb.at

A Vienna institution and definitely worth seeing. Have "Apfelstrudel" there!



TRZESNIEWSKI

RESTAURANT

Dorotheergasse 1, Wien, Austria www.trzesniewski.at

Viennese specialties and tasty sandwiches for a quick bite in between your day.



ZUR HERKNERIN

RESTAURANT

Wiedner Hauptstraße 36, Wien, Austria www.zurherknerin.at

A down-to-earth Austrian restaurant run with love and passion!



RUDI'S BEISL

RESTAURANT

Wiedner Hauptstraße 88, Wien, Austria

Call to book a table in advance, otherwise you might miss these fantastic, typical Austrian dishes.



WORACZICZKY

RESTAURANT Spengergasse 52, Wien, Austria www.woracziczky.at

You have to try Vienna's best "Backhendl" (deep fried chicken) here! Absolutely delicious!



ROBERTO AMERICAN BAR

BARS & CLUBS Bauernmarkt 11-13, Wien, Austria www.robertosbar.com

Quite a new bar but already very popular, and for good reason.



BONBONNIERE BAR

BARS & CLUBS Spiegelgasse 15, Wien, Austria

Said to be the oldest bar in Vienna and truly a one-of-a-kind experience - see it, feel it!



BLAUE BAR

BARS & CLUBS

Philharmoniker Str. 4, Wien, Austria www.sacher.com/hotel-sacher-wien

You'll find this nice bar inside the Hotel Sacher - a great spot to have a drink after going to the theatre or the cinema.



HENGL-HASELBRUNNER

RESTAURANT

Iglaseegasse 10, Wien, Austria www.hengl-haselbrunner.at

One of the most charming "Heuriger" in the area and their cherry and apricot strudel is just too good to be true!



VOLKSGARTENPAVILLION

BARS & CLUBS

Volksgarten Pavillon, Volksgarten, Wien, Austria www.volksgarten-pavillon.at

The pavilion was built in the 1950s and is a magical place for warm summer nights. The venue is used for different kinds of parties.



BAD VÖSLAU

ESCAPE

Maital 2, Bad Vöslau, Austria www.thermalbad-voeslau.at/home/home.php

Thermal baths, a little bit outside of the city (easily accessible with public transport) but perfect for hot summer days to cool off in an atmosphere just like ancient times.

