



# FOR THE LOVE OF VIENNA

with Venice, Dolomites & Southern Austria pre-tour

May 4/9-17, 2022 (9/14 days)



Hofburg Palace  
© Peter Rigaud, WienTourismus



Vienna Boys' Choir  
© Lukas Beck, WienTourismus



Musikverein, Vienna © Wolf Dieter Grabner

## Highlights:

- Explore one of the world's greatest cultural capitals and enjoy performances at the city's greatest concert halls, including the Musikverein and Vienna State Opera.
- Private concerts by your hosts, violinist Kai Gleusteen and pianist Catherine Ordronneau, in the intimate settings of the iconic Hotel Bristol and the Mozarthaus.
- Accommodation at Vienna's iconic Hotel Bristol, located in the historic centre beside Vienna State Opera and a mere five-minute walk from the Musikverein.
- Group size will be limited to 30 people for a personalized experience.
- This tour can be combined with our "Classical Italy" tour (April 28–May 8, 2022) and 3-day journey from Venice to Vienna via the Dolomites and Southern Austria.



## SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL

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## A WORD FROM SPECIAL TRAVEL



Dear Traveller(s),

Since most of 2020-21 did not allow for international travel, we are eager to get back to Europe.

A group size of 30 travellers will allow more time with our tour hosts and feature artists while visiting some amazing areas.

Our trusted Music Director, legendary Canadian musician,

impresario and raconteur **George Zukerman, O.C., O.B.C.**, has been working with the music hosts of the tours to create musical programs of a very high standard, around which we developed two wonderful itineraries:

**"Classical Italy"** (April 28–May 8, 2022)

**"For the Love of Vienna"** (May 9–17, 2022)

Both tours are hosted by the delightful duo of **Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordroneau**. They can be booked individually, or combined for a grand classical music adventure from Italy to Austria.

**"For the Love of Vienna"** focuses on a city almost synonymous with classical music, and while the "delayed" 250th birthday of Beethoven will be of special interest, we will also honour many of the other great composers for which the region is famed.

A particular highlight in Vienna will be our stay at **Hotel Bristol**, a landmark with a noble history and an unrivalled location next to the State Opera. Day trips and excursions will focus on the great musical history and special sites of Vienna and surroundings.

The combination of rich culture, spectacular sites and the finest music will offer an experience you will never forget. We look forward to having you join us!

**Gery Valtiner**, Programme Director



*Gery Valtiner and George Zukerman on tour*

## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Greetings Music Lovers,

I invite you to join Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordroneau on an unequalled classical music tour to Austria (and/or Northern Italy) in the spring.

With the Gleusteens as your ever knowledgeable hosts, you will visit the great city of Vienna and its surrounds.

The concert world is emerging from its recent hibernation and we have done our best to assemble a musical journey-of-a-lifetime.

The music days in and around Vienna will include a concert by the Vienna Philharmonic at the Musikverein, a performance at the Vienna State Opera (repertoire to be confirmed), a special concert by the fabled Vienna Boys Choir at the Wiener Hofmusikkapelle, as well as more performances yet to be announced.

The Gleusteens will conclude this memorable classical music tour with their farewell recital at the elegant Hotel Bristol.

As with all Special Travel International Classical Music tours, prepare for superb music, wonderful accommodations, gourmet cuisine and knowledgeable tour guides to welcome you to the cities where so much of the world's great classical music was created.

**George Zukerman, O.C., O.B.C.**, Music Director



*George Zukerman, Catherine Ordroneau and Kai Gleusteen*

## GLEUSTEEN-ORDRONNEAU DUO

Since 1999 when they first began to work together, Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordronneau have established themselves as one of the most important European violin and piano duos. Having performed more than 100 recitals in Europe, Canada and the USA, they are praised for their unique partnership, "playing under the control of a single intelligence", and for the emotional power of their interpretations.

Recent projects include touring the USA in performance with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, recitals in both Chicago and San Francisco, a 21-concert tour of China, a gala concert in the prestigious Hôtel de Ville of Paris and active participation in the Kaimerata Festivals in Spain and Canada.

Their repertoire encompasses most of the great sonatas for violin and piano – including complete Beethoven sonatas and Brahms sonatas – as well as a myriad of short pieces representing the countries where they perform. They have recorded extensively on the AVIE label.

## NOTES FROM YOUR HOSTS

Why Vienna? It is perhaps the city with the richest history in classical music in the world. Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms and the list goes on – all were attracted to the "City of Music".

When in Vienna, we walk where these great composers walked, attend performances in the very concert halls where their works were created and premiered, and hear musicians who continue in the tradition set out by these greats.

Catherine and I will be delighted to perform for you music of these composers and others with a distinct Viennese style. The Mozarthaus, where the composer actually lived, will be the special setting for one of our concerts.

Of course, a trip to Vienna wouldn't be complete without the delicious cakes from Dehmel and the incredible museums. We'll be there to share it all with you!

**Kai Gleusteen & Catherine Ordronneau**

## PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

Wed, May 11	Concert at the Musikverein, Vienna (programme to be confirmed)
Thu, May 12	Private concert with Kai Gleusteen (violin) and Catherine Ordronneau (piano) at Hotel Bristol, Vienna
Fri, May 13	Private concert with Kai Gleusteen (violin) and Catherine Ordronneau (piano) at the Mozarthaus
Sat, May 14	Opera at the Vienna State Opera (programme to be confirmed)
Sun, May 15 (AM)	Concert at the Hofburgkapelle with the Vienna Boys Choir
Sun, May 15 (PM)	Optional performance at the Wiener Konzerthaus, Volksoper or similar



# VENICE, DOLOMITES & SOUTHERN AUSTRIA (optional pre-tour)

## Wed, May 4: DEPART CANADA

Depart for Italy.

## Thu, May 5: ARRIVE VENICE

After arrival in **Venice**, transfer to your hotel. Join your host Kai Gleusteen and fellow tour members for dinner. (D)

## Fri, May 6: VENICE

Please see our "Classical Italy" brochure for details.

## Sat, May 7: VENICE – SACILE – VENICE

Please see our "Classical Italy" brochure for details.

**Should you wish to do your own Venice programme, your tour starts with the coach departure from Venice on Sunday, May 8.**

## Sun, May 8: VENICE – CORTINA D'AMPEZZO – LIENZ – MILLSTATT

Depart Venice for **Cortina d'Ampezzo**, the undeniably beautiful "Pearl of the Dolomites", where magnificent mountains provide a backdrop to the town's church spires and pleasant cascading piazzas. Cortina d'Ampezzo hosted the Winter Olympics in 1956.

Proceed to Austria via the medieval town of **Lienz**. Late afternoon arrival in **Lake Millstatt**. (B,D)

## Mon, May 9: LAKE MILLSTATT

Following a cruise on **Lake Millstatt**, join a guided tour of the town including Millstatt Abbey, a former monastery established by Benedictine monks about 1070.

Tonight, enjoy a private concert by your hosts. (B,D)

### — CONCERT —

Private concert with Kai Gleusteen (violin) and Catherine Ordronneau (piano) at a local venue

## Tue, May 10: MILLSTATT – KLAGENFURT – VIENNA

Drive to **Klagenfurt**, on the eastern bank of beautiful Lake Wörthersee. Time at leisure in the historic town centre and its lovingly restored arcaded Renaissance courtyards which accommodate modern boutiques and authentic beer gardens. Stop at the imposing **Hochosterwitz Castle** to admire the view. Late afternoon arrival in the Austrian capital for the start of the tour "**For the Love of Vienna**". (B,L,D)



## PRE-TOUR COSTS in CAD

**Per person, twin-share \$1,990**

**Single supplement \$790**

### If only joining in Venice on May 8:

**Per person, twin-share \$790**

**Single supplement \$220**



Venice - Courtesy of Veneto Inside



Cortina d'Ampezzo © Rino Porrovecchio

# FOR THE LOVE OF VIENNA

## Day 1 / Mon, May 9: DEPART CANADA

Depart for Austria.

## Day 2 / Tue, May 10: ARRIVE VIENNA

After arrival in **Vienna**, transfer to **Hotel Bristol**, an art deco gem opened in 1892 and a living example of Viennese charm and personalized service. This historic hotel will be your home base for the week.

After some time to settle into your room and relax, join your host Kai Gleusteen for a welcome drink and introduction to your Vienna Concert Series, followed with dinner. (D)

## Day 3 / Wed, May 11: VIENNA

Start your exploration of the Austrian capital with an **orientation tour**. See the highlights of the Ringstrasse and UNO City, one of the four official headquarters of the United Nations. Lunch at one of Vienna's traditional cafes.

Enjoy a 2-hour guided **walking tour** through the Inner City, past St. Stephen's Cathedral and other landmarks. Tonight, proceed to the **Musikverein** for the first of your concerts. (B,L)

### — CONCERT —

Concert at the Musikverein  
(programme to be confirmed)

## Day 4 / Thu, May 12: VIENNA

Embark on a guided tour of the **Great Hall of the Musikverein**, widely considered to be one of the finest concert halls in the world, thanks to its superb acoustics. Continue to the **Haus der Musik**, an interactive museum dedicated to the world of sound.

This afternoon, proceed to **Vienna Zentral Friedhof**, the second largest cemetery in the world and resting place of famous musicians such as Beethoven, Brahms, Schubert and Strauss. Return to the hotel to rest before tonight's dinner and concert. (B,D)

### — CONCERT —

Private concert with Kai Gleusteen (violin)  
and Catherine Ordroneau (piano) at Hotel Bristol

## Day 5 / Fri, May 13: VIENNA

This morning, enjoy a brief walking tour of the historic centre with its narrow streets and hidden courtyards. End with a visit to the **Mozarthaus**, the composer's residence from 1784 to 1787. In this very special setting, enjoy a private concert by your hosts.

### — CONCERT —

Private concert with Kai Gleusteen (violin)  
and Catherine Ordroneau (piano) at the Mozarthaus

Afternoon at leisure to further explore Vienna on your own. You may wish to visit the Art History Museum, the Belvedere or the Albertina, or one of the renowned museums in the Museum Quarter. (B)

## Day 6 / Sat, May 14: VIENNA – EISENSTADT – VIENNA

Full day excursion to **Eisenstadt**. Discover the grand **Esterházy Palace**, where classical composer Joseph Haydn spent much of his career as a court musician. Visit the **Haydn Mausoleum** in the nearby Bergkirche. Return to Vienna for some time at leisure. Walk to the celebrated **Hotel Sacher** for dinner, including a slice of their famous Sachertorte, before an evening at the opera. (B,L,D)

### — PERFORMANCE —

Opera at the Vienna State Opera  
(programme to be confirmed)



Musikverein, Vienna © Christian Stemper, WienTourismus



Bergkirche, Eisenstadt  
© Volker Preusser, Austrian National Tourist Office

## Day 7 / Sun, May 15: VIENNA

Morning concert with the **Vienna Boys Choir** at the Hofburgkapelle.

### — CONCERT —

Concert at the Hofburgkapelle  
with the renowned Vienna Boys Choir

This afternoon, visit **Schönbrunn Palace**, main summer residence of the Habsburg rulers, inextricably linked to Empress Maria Theresa. (B,D)

### — OPTIONAL PERFORMANCE —

Optional performance  
at the Wiener Konzerthaus, Volksoper or similar

## Day 8 / Mon, May 16: VIENNA – VIENNA WOODS – VIENNA

Today travel to the **Vienna Woods** and visit the monastery of **Heiligenkreuz**. Take part in the noon hour chants of the monks, before enjoying lunch at the monastery's restaurant.

After lunch, drive through the St. Helena Valley to nearby **Baden**, long a refuge for the Viennese nobility. Enjoy a walking tour of the lovely Biedermeier town centre, as well as an exclusive visit to the **Beethovenhaus**, where the composer spent his summers between 1821 and 1823 and wrote substantial parts of the 9th Symphony. Return to Vienna for your farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

## Day 9 / Tue, May 17: DEPART VIENNA – ARRIVE CANADA

Transfer to Vienna International Airport for your flight(s) home. (B)

Performance details are preliminary and subject to change; slight adjustments to our sightseeing programme may have to be made once performance schedule is finalized.



Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Konzerthaus  
© Peter Rigaud, WienTourismus

## TOUR COSTS in CAD

<b>Per person, twin-share</b>	<b>\$4,990</b>
<b>Single supplement</b>	<b>\$1,690</b>

### Upgrades at Hotel Bristol, Vienna

<b>Deluxe twin room (per person)</b>	<b>\$535</b>
<b>Deluxe single room</b>	<b>\$940</b>

To enhance your experience, we recommend arriving in Vienna a couple of nights prior to the start of the tour. Should you wish to book extra nights at the hotel, please contact us for rates.

## AIR OPTIONS

Please contact our office for a quote.

You may also purchase your own flights (book on points etc.) and meet the group at the hotel.

## INCLUDED

- 7 nights in Classic Rooms at Hotel Bristol, Vienna
- All concerts and special music events as per itinerary (top 2 category tickets for public concerts)
- Meals as per itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Private air-conditioned coach transportation
- Comprehensive sightseeing incl. local guides and admission fees as per itinerary
- Gratuities for drivers and guides
- Hotel portorage
- Local taxes and service charges

## NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare Canada – Vienna return
- Travel insurance (please contact our office for a quote)
- Drinks with meals
- Items of a personal nature
- Venice, Dolomites & Southern Austria pre-tour

# RESERVATION FORM

VENICE, DOLOMITES & SOUTHERN AUSTRIA (optional pre-tour)

May 4-10, 2022

DOLOMITES & SOUTHERN AUSTRIA (optional pre-tour)

May 8-10, 2022

FOR THE LOVE OF VIENNA

May 9-17, 2022

Please complete this form and return it to us with your deposit of \$800.00 per person. Please write name(s) exactly as listed in passport (e.g.: William, not 'Bill'). Travel insurance is optional but strongly recommended.

	TRAVELLER #1	TRAVELLER #2 <small>(if different address/payment method than Traveller #1, please fill out a separate booking form)</small>
Title (Mr / Mrs / Ms etc.)		
First name		
Middle name(s)		
Last name		
Date of birth (dd/mmm/yyyy)		
City + country of birth		
Passport #		
Passport expiry (dd/mmm/yyyy)		
Passport issuing country		
Preferred first name (for name tag)		
Dietary restrictions		

## ADDRESS

Street:

City:

Province/State:

Postal code:

Country:

Cell #:

Home #:

Email:

## TRAVEL PREFERENCES

Accommodation:  Single\*  Double  Twin  Sharing with:

\*Please contact us if you would like to be paired up with another traveller and we will do our best to assist. If we are unable to arrange a twin-share, you will be accommodated in a single room and invoiced accordingly.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

Next of kin's name:

Next of kin's phone #:

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

I/we would like to receive a travel insurance quote.  I/we have arranged my/our own travel insurance.

## PAYMENT

Please make cheques payable to:

**SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL**

Visa / MasterCard / American Express

Card #:

Expiry date:

Name on card:

Amount to be charged: \$

I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the brochure.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT:

\$800 pp deposit due at time of booking  
2nd installment of \$1,000 pp due by February 9, 2022  
Balance due by March 9, 2022  
Tour documents will be sent to you approximately 14 days prior to your trip departure, provided full payment has been received.

## TOUR PRICES:

All tour prices for land arrangements are based on rates effective at the time of printing and are expected to be in effect at the time of departure. Should these rates change, it may be necessary to surcharge the price of your vacation. Should the tour price increase by more than 10%, the passenger shall have the right to cancel within seven days of notification without penalty.

## CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS:

Notice of cancellation must be made in writing. The effective cancellation date is the date when written notification is received by Special Travel International (hereafter called STI).

**Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, we have put in place a special scale of charges in case of cancellation, to protect the traveller as much as possible:**

Until Feb 8, 2022	\$300
Feb 9 – Mar 8, 2022	\$800
Mar 9 – Apr 8, 2022	50%
From Apr 9, 2022	100%

(a cancellation/interruption insurance policy should be purchased to cover these cancellation charges)

**We are also offering the following consideration: if you cancel PRIOR to March 9, 2022, YOU may find a traveller to take your place on the tour, and only forfeit \$300 (instead of \$800).**

*NB: different payment/cancellation policies apply to airline tickets; you will be advised at time of booking.*

## TRAVEL INSURANCE:

STI strongly recommends that each tour participant has health, cancellation, interruption, accident and baggage insurance for the duration of his/her travel. Travel insurance companies are offering packages that include Cancellation and/or Medical coverage should you fall ill before or during your trip. Premiums are based on the age of the traveller(s). Should you be unable to travel because of contracting COVID-19, or ANY other insurable reason, you will be entitled to compensation by your travel insurance company.

**COVID-19 consideration: Some insurance companies offer an optional add-on benefit allowing you to cancel for ANY reason. These specific CANCEL FOR ANY REASON (CFAR) policies will reimburse you up to 80% of your monies, depending on when you cancel. Cost of the premium is usually about 25% higher than a standard insurance policy.** CFAR policies can only be purchased at the time of booking your trip. Standard policies (All Inclusive / Cancellation / Medical) can be purchased later – at the time the 2nd payment is due, for instance. Please note travel insurance does not cover everything. It is designed to cover losses arising from sudden and unforeseeable circumstances due to emergencies. For further details, please call our office or an insurance company specialized in travel insurance.

## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, VISAS AND VACCINES:

It is entirely the passenger's responsibility to possess whatever documents, visas and vaccines are required by the law of the countries visited on the tour.

## RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

STI acts only as an agent in securing all services related to the tours described in this brochure, including transportation, sightseeing and accommodation. STI shall not be responsible or liable for any loss, cost, damage, injury, delay or expense arising from the use of any conveyance, accommodation or service or from acts of God, strikes, weather, quarantine, accidents, sickness, government regulations, insufficient documents and any loss expense resulting from the above contingencies shall be borne by the tour member. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort of the passenger, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. Additional expense, if any, shall be borne by the passenger. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, and also to decline to accept or retain any passenger as a member of the tour. In such instances, full or equitable amounts will be refunded.

## AIRLINE RESPONSIBILITY:

Any air carrier providing transportation in connection with these tours is not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passenger is not on board its planes. The passenger contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchase of these tours and/or passenger. Similar responsibility as noted applies to all types of carriers, including car rental companies.



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