

FROM BEETHOVEN TO DVORÁK  
*Prague Instrumental Festival*

Festival Tour #2 (7 nights/9 days)

**Day 1 Saturday, March 16, 2019**

Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Budapest, Hungary

**Day 2 Sunday, March 17 Budapest (D)**

Arrive in Budapest

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for the transfer into Budapest. Although a different language is spoken here, Hungary was for centuries a part of the Habsburg Empire and the trappings and influence of the monarchy are still here. The old and new have blended to create one of Europe's most beautiful cities. Liszt, Bartok and von Weber are among Hungary's famous musicians

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Welcome Dinner and overnight

*Budapest is the modern combination of three cities: Obuda, Buda and Pest. Linked by eight bridges, these cities have retained their own distinctive characteristics, but their combination has created one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.*

**Day 3 Monday, March 18 Budapest (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning guided tour of Budapest to include the Parliament, Chain Bridge, Royal Castle Hill (for an incredible view of the city), St. Stephen's Cathedral, Matthias Church, Fisherman's Bastion (including entrance), and the picturesque streets of Tánctis Mihály utca, Uri utca and Fortuna utca which feature splendid examples of medieval houses and Baroque mansions

Lunch, on own

*Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Hungary*

Evening dinner and overnight

**Day 4 Tuesday, March 19 Budapest / Eisenstadt / Vienna (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Travel along the Danube to Vienna, stopping en route in Eisenstadt. Everything in Eisenstadt reminds one of the brilliant composer Franz Joseph Haydn. Entrance is included to Esterhazy Palace with its Haydnsaal, where many of Haydn's works were premiered, and *where choirs may sing a short recital*, and also to Haydn's House, which is now a museum

Lunch, on own

Continue to Vienna, stopping at the Vienna City Cemetery to visit the graves of Beethoven, Strauss, Brahms, Schubert and the Mozart Memorial

Evening dinner and overnight



**Day 5 Wednesday, March 20 Vienna (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Historical Vienna* includes the Ringstraße, Imperial Palace, State Opera, Town Hall, Burgkapelle (home of the Vienna Boys Choir), Palace Stables, Strauß Monument, and entrance to Schönbrunn Palace, built by the Hapsburgs in imitation of Versailles

Lunch, on own

Afternoon guided tour of *Musical Vienna* includes entrance to the Haus der Musik (House of Music), a modern interactive sound museum located in the historic city center. This tour also includes the Museum of the Vienna Philharmonic, which is part of the House of Music

*Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria*

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight



**Day 6 Thursday, March 21 Vienna / Prague (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Prague

Lunch, on own

Enjoy an orientation tour of Prague which includes seeing the Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, the Tyn Church, the Astronomical Clock, and the Jewish Quarter

Evening dinner and overnight



*Prague achieved much of its present glory in the 14th century, during the long reign of Charles IV, king of Bohemia and Moravia and Holy Roman Emperor. During the Middle Ages, Prague enjoyed a golden age - a time when Prague was larger than Paris or London! The Hapsburgs also left their artistic and architectural mark. Today, Prague is universally declared one of the most beautiful cities in Europe*



**Day 7 Friday, March 22 Prague (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of Prague includes a visit to Hradcany Castle, including its St. Vitus Cathedral, the Old Royal Palace, the Golden Lane, and the Daliborka Tower

Lunch, on own

*Afternoon rehearsal*

Evening dinner and overnight



**Day 8 Saturday, March 23 Prague (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Musical Prague* including entrance to the Dvořák home in Nelahozeves where Antonin Dvořák was born. Also visit Lobkowitz Palace with its large music archive containing works by over five hundred composers and musicians. The Music Archive is most celebrated for its collection of works by Handel, Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven

Lunch, on own

*Prague Instrumental Festival Finale Concert at Smetana Hall*

Evening Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant

Overnight at the hotel



Day 9    Sunday, March 24    Depart for home    (B)

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Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Prague's airport for return flight

***This is a very flexible itinerary.*** Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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