

# 2024



## PRESS INFORMATION

### Fortress Hohensalzburg: The landmark at the heart of Mozart's home town

Some say you haven't seen Salzburg if you haven't visited Fortress Hohensalzburg. The over 1,000-year-old fortress is considered *the* landmark of the city of Mozart – and not without reason. Once, from the safety of these mighty walls, the powerful prince archbishop directed the fate of the entire region. Today, the fortress promises an exciting and entertaining journey into Salzburg's history. There's so much to explore here, high above the rooftops of the UNESCO-protected old town, from the famous state rooms, to the new panorama tour – a journey to the highest point in the city.

In 2024, there are all kinds of highlights to look forward to; especially for families and young adults.

#### New in 2024: Even more family adventures

The **fortress games** are all about *fun, games and history*. This is a recently introduced interactive adventure tour for visitors of all ages. Visitors embark on a journey of discovery throughout the castle, armed with a lovingly-designed game set. There are lots of tricky tasks to be solved, and seven game stations requiring skill and brains – from a duel with the blacksmith to a Salzburg Bull tug of war.

#### Special tours and events for families

There's a greatly-expanded range of family-friendly special tours and events in 2024, including a new **family tour with Easter handicrafts and an Easter egg race** in the castle courtyard (28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March); as well as a **torchlight tour** especially for kids around Halloween (30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October). The popular **medieval festival** on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September is now in its third year. In 2024, the highly successful series of **varied-theme special tours for families** and the **public family tours** every third Sunday of the month are also to be continued.

#### From sword-fighting workshops to after-work chill-outs

There are even more customised offers for young adults and students at Hohensalzburg Fortress from 2024: The programme includes a **top photo-op tour of for students** (27<sup>th</sup> February, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup>

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#### Opening hours:

January - April: Every day 9.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.  
May - September: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 8.00 p.m.  
October - December: Every day 9.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.  
Advent weekends & Easter: 9.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

October), a **sword-fighting workshop for first-semester students** (8<sup>th</sup> October), a **table football tournament** (26<sup>th</sup> April) and the **Cheers! After Work Special** (13<sup>th</sup> March & 13<sup>th</sup> November).

From May to September, the fortress team offers a **quick free tour** twice a day (9.30 am & 7 pm), providing visitors with the most important information about Salzburg's famous landmark in around 30 minutes. The wide range of special tours is rounded off by new and already familiar themed formats – such as the Thursday **evening tours** in July and August, a **Twelfth Night trip around the fortress** (27<sup>th</sup> December), the **Romanesque Chapel anniversary tour** (20<sup>th</sup> November), and a **summer solstice tour** (19<sup>th</sup> June).

### **Everyman & Fortress Advent: Event highlights at the castle**

Obviously, events that have proven highly popular down the years will be featured too – such as the famous play '**Everyman**', held in the **castle courtyard** (July & August), and the daily **fortress concerts**. An insider tip among locals is the **Salzburg Fortress Advent**. Every weekend throughout the Advent period there's an authentic Christmas market offering Salzburg handicrafts, regional delicacies and a genuine Christmas atmosphere. Visitors enjoy a mug of mulled wine or punch, and the marvellous view out across Salzburg's old town. For all dates and special tours – go to [www.festung-hohensalzburg.at](http://www.festung-hohensalzburg.at).

### **Explore Salzburg's enduring and indomitable landmark**

Fortress Hohensalzburg is one of the largest 11<sup>th</sup> century castle complexes in existence, and was never seriously damaged throughout its entire eventful history. Consequently, today it offers visitors unique historical insights far back into the Middle Ages. The castle keep and its magnificent **state rooms** are particularly impressive. The "Golden Chamber" and elaborately-designed tiled stove belong to some of the most beautiful late Gothic secular rooms in Europe. In the lovingly-crafted **Magic Theatre**, visitors to the state rooms embark on a fascinating journey through time in the footsteps of the venue's initiator, Leonhard von Keutschach. Music, light effects and video installations make it a fascinating multi-sense experience for children and adults alike.

### **Panorama tour: From deep within to high above**

A tour of the fortress is a must for every visitor. The fortress audio guide tour was recently replaced by an all-new **panorama** tour. Highlights of this interactive tour include a large 3D salt model of the old town and an ingenious system of horns that allows visitors to reproduce the melodies of the Salzburg Bull organ themselves. The panorama tour is complemented by attentively-crafted mechanical peep-boxes that enable children to playfully explore the history of the building and the legends of Salzburg.

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## Fortress museums and exhibitions

As well as the above highlights, Fortress Hohensalzburg is home to a whole range of fascinating museums, including the **Rainer Regiment Museum** and the **Fortress Museum**. The current **exhibition in the historic arsenal** tells the story of the fortress's defences, guns, armour and hand weapons. Interactive models allow visitors to try out various methods of attack and defence on a medieval castle complex.

## The right ticket for every occasion

Fortress Hohensalzburg is Salzburg's most popular tourist attraction, welcoming over one million visitors every year. In order to best cater to the needs of all visitors, there are various ticket options available. The **all-inclusive ticket** is the best choice for visitors looking to experience everything the fortress has to offer. The very affordable **Panorama Ticket** option was created especially for all those in a hurry. It's available from 8.30am to 10am and from 6pm to 8pm, and is aimed specifically at guests coming primarily for the view and to enjoy the wonderful atmosphere in the morning and evening. It's available peak season from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September and includes a ride up and back down with the fortress funicular, a visit to the castle grounds with courtyards and bastions, *and* the new panorama tour. The Fortress Hohensalzburg **online ticket** is a great way to avoid queues at the ticket office.

## General information for visitors to Fortress Hohensalzburg

Fortress Hohensalzburg is open 365 days a year. The **fortress funicular railway** runs up and down every 10 minutes, and it takes around 20 minutes to walk up to the fortress through the guarded archways, the Mayor's Gate and the outer courtyard. Guests are treated to culinary delights in the **international fortress restaurant** and the **Burgschenke tavern restaurant**, which can also be booked for celebrations. Fortress concerts are held in the state rooms. Fortress Hohensalzburg can be visited free of charge with the Salzburg Card, and visitors benefit from free WLAN and an informative website with a 'Comic & Guide'.

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