

BUDGET and BLOWOUT guide to Vienna

With quaint Viennese cafés and abundant street food treasures, the Austrian capital is a foodie's delight

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Linger over coffee and apple strudel at a charming café or dine in style at a posh Austrian diner. Vienna heaves with brilliant culinary offerings to delight every palate kind.

BUDGET

LUNCH



* Like most coffee houses in Vienna, **Café Prückel** (prueckel.at) doesn't just offer coffee and pastries laden with *schlagobers* or whipped cream but also a reasonable lunch menu that ranges from 7€ to 10€. Don't forget to order a typical Viennese coffee "Mélange" or cappuccino (3.50€) with cake (2.70€). * **Naschmarkt Deli** (naschmarkt-deli.at) is popular among Vienna's urban hipsters. Try the sandwiches and Oriental specialities like the falafel wrap with hummus (7.90€).

DINNER



* Although it is part of the Plachutta group of restaurants that specialise in *tafelspitz* or Viennese boiled beef, at **Gasthaus zur Oper** the focus is on *wiener schnitzel* – a Viennese delicacy made of crumb-fried veal. A large schnitzel with side dishes costs 18.70€ (Tel: +43 151 22251; plachutta.at) * **Glacis Beisl** (glacisbeisl.at) has one of the most charming gardens in Vienna. Try the beef goulash with pickle and roll (9.40€) along with a glass of the local wine.

DRINK



* Head out for the vineyards and relax in the cosy ambience of a *heuriger*, the name given to an Austrian wine tavern that offers local white and red wines for around 3€ a glass. Take tramway 38 from metro station Schottentor and head for Grinzing to find a number of such *heurigs*. * Small and cosmopolitan, **Halbestadt** is an official 'embassy' for the Ardbeg brand of scotch. It is the place to go to for reasonably priced cocktails, about 11€ each. (halbestadt.at)

HOTEL



* Rated by both *Wallpaper* and *Monocle* magazines as one of the best designed boutique hotels in the world, **Hotel Daniel Vienna** combines industrial chic with urban comfort. Apart from the well-lit rooms, there is also a fully revamped trailer on the grounds for those seeking an offbeat experience. Doubles from 92€. (hoteldaniel.com) * The two branches of the budget design hotel **Motel One** are conveniently located and offer basic rooms from 69€. (motelone.at)

MUST DO



* Watch a pastry chef bake authentic Viennese apple strudel and get a taste of it at the demonstration bakery at **Café Residenz** at the Schönbrunn Palace. Classes run daily from 10 am to 5 pm from March to October, 9.60€ per person including a piece of strudel and coffee. (cafe-residenz.at) * When you turn on the tap in Vienna, what you get is mountain spring water from the Alps. If you've never tasted fresh water straight from the mountains, Vienna is the place to do it.

BLOWOUT



* **Fabio's** serves Mediterranean specialities in a stylish mahogany setting, which has secured its reputation as one of Vienna's trendiest dining spots and a spot on the World's Top 50 Restaurants list. Try the lobster cappuccino for starters (23.50€), and follow it up with the fillet of sea bream with homemade gnocchi and pesto (31€). (fabios.at)



* **Steirereck** occupies the 11th place on the World's Top 50 Restaurants list. Chef Heinz Reitbauer presents contemporary Austrian cuisine using local produce. He sources some of the ingredients from his own farm, and the restaurant boasts a 'milk bar' with several cheeses. Try the seven-course tasting menu for 135€. (steirereck.at)



* Situated on the 18th floor of the Sofitel Hotel, **Le Loft Bar & Lounge** offers the chance to sightsee from a vantage point, offering panoramic views of the city. Sip on classic cocktails like the Green Apple Martini (15€ onwards), and savour the chic French-Austrian food while enjoying 360 degree views of the city. (sofitel.com)



* A heritage building that dates back to 1872, **Hotel Sans Souci Wien** was recently given a new lease of life by Philippe Starck's design company Yoo Studio and reopened in February this year. The rooms have eclectic touches and the walls showcase pieces of modern and contemporary art. Doubles from 260€. (sanssouci-wien.com)



* Inside the Palais Coburg, a five-star hotel, is a collection of rare wines that is part of the **Palais Coburg Wine Archives**. Oenophiles can browse through six wine cellars in the age-old vaults and also taste the wines. A guided tour of five of the theme-oriented cellars that includes a glass of champagne costs 35€ per person. (coburg.at)