

An Opera Adventure Vienna & Italy!



June 18-29, 2022

“You may have the universe if I may have Italy.”

Giuseppe Verdi

Join KHFM’s Brent Stevens, Opera Southwest Artistic Director Maestro Anthony Barrese and fellow opera lovers and music enthusiasts for a journey to Vienna, Slovenia, Verona and Venice. Enjoy the beauty and pageantry of opera music as it was meant to be experienced, in Europe’s most legendary palaces, symphony halls and opera houses! Visit the great composers’ homes and walk in their historic footsteps through Europe’s most romantic musical capitals, Vienna and Venice. Imagine savoring a fine red wine in an Italian vineyard, viewing rare renaissance art, strolling through colorful outdoor markets and undiscovered Slovenian villages. To top it off, you’ll attend Mozart’s **Magic Flute** at the Vienna State Opera, **Turandot** at the Vienna Volksoper, Bizet’s **Carmen** and Verdi’s **Aida** at the historic Verona, open-air arena. Experience the fullness of *Bella Italia* and historic Vienna with KHFM’s Brent Stevens and Maestro Anthony Barrese.

YOUR JOURNEY

- 3 Nights Mozart’s Vienna, Austria
- 2 Nights Stunning Lake Bled, Slovenia
- 3 Nights Romantic Verona, Italy
- 3 Nights Historic Venice, Italy



**EARTHBOUND
EXPEDITIONS**

Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

P.O. Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA
T. 800.723.8454 / T. 206.842.9775 / F. 206.238.8480
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INSIDER EXPERIENCES

Tickets to the Verona Opera Festival ♦ Tickets to Mozart's Magic Flute at the Vienna State Opera House ♦ Tickets to Turandot, at the Vienna Volksoper ♦ A backstage tour of La Fenice Opera House ♦ Private guided walks in Vienna, Verona and Venice with local experts ♦ Unique traditional dining experiences ♦ Mozart's Figaro House ♦ Beethoven's Residence ♦ Vienna's Fine Art Museum Instruments ♦ Wine tastings with the producers in Austria & Italy ♦ Verona, the city of Romeo and Juliet ♦ A private tour of the Roman Arena of Verona ♦ A private tour of the Accademia art museum of Venice ♦ Stunning Lake Bled ♦ A small, fun group of fellow art, food, wine and opera lovers

IT'S INCLUDED!

- ⌋ Travel with KHFM's Brent Stevens and, Opera Southwest Artistic Director Maestro Anthony Barrese
- ⌋ Guided by an Earthbound Expeditions expert program director
- ⌋ A minimum of five opera performances will be included
- ⌋ Airport transfers in Europe
- ⌋ Eleven nights of accommodation in four and superior three star, centrally located hotels
- ⌋ All breakfasts, plus ten additional multi-course meals.
- ⌋ Transportation by air-conditioned coach & Vaporetto (*i.e., water taxi*)
- ⌋ Wine and cheese tastings while visiting the producers
- ⌋ Guided visits to the top museums of Vienna and Venice
- ⌋ Walking tours in each city visited with intriguing local guides
- ⌋ Country outings in Austria, Slovenia and northern Italy
- ⌋ A like-minded group of fellow music enthusiasts and opera lovers

TRIP FACTS

12 Days/11 Nights (*add one more day/night for air travel*)

\$6,495 Double Occupancy PP Land only

\$1,495 Single Supplement (*waived if you are willing to share!*)

Optional Group Flight departs on June 17, 2022

Your opera adventure begins on June 18, in Vienna

Your journey culminates in Venice on June 29, after breakfast



SAVE \$300: Save \$100 when you pay your final balance by check ❖ Travel alumni save \$100 Reserve by January 7, 2022 and save \$100

RISK FREE: Your deposit is fully refundable until February 1, 2022.

NOT INCLUDED: Airline tickets, travel insurance and any items not listed in your tailor-made opera itinerary.



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“He roused my admiration when I was young; he caused me to despair when I reached maturity; he is now the comfort of my old age.”

- Gioachino Rossini on Mozart

Your Opera Journey begins....



Day 0, June 17: Depart Home City for Historic Vienna!

This morning we are off to the legendary home of Strauss, Mozart, the Habsburgs and the Waltz! **Note:** An optional group flight from Albuquerque will be offered. Remember, if you are booking your own flight, you must depart the US no later than today.

Day 1, June 18: Arrive in Vienna

Guten Tag! After arriving in Vienna, check into your centrally-located hotel. You'll have time to freshen up before meeting your hosts and guide for an evening welcome dinner and orientation. *Sleep in Vienna (D)*

Day 2, June 19: Fine Arts Museum & Mozart's Magic Flute at the State Opera House

The Museum of Fine Arts ranks among the richest and most important art collections in the world. In its corridors, you'll find dazzling works by Bruegel, Rubens, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Dürer, Raphael, Titian and Velazquez. Enjoy lunch together and then enjoy a free afternoon in Vienna. Tonight, let's meet for our first opera, Mozart's Magic Flute at the State Opera house *Sleep in Vienna (B, L)*



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Haydn's Theatre, Schloss Esterházy

Day 3, June 20: In Pursuit of Mozart & Beethoven: Turandot at the Vienna Volksoper

Enjoy a morning walking tour through the streets of Vienna. Accompanied by a local expert, learn why Vienna was the musical capital of Europe in the 18th century. Specifically, you'll enjoy a brisk walk highlighting the history of Saint Stephan's cathedral. This is the very place where Mozart was married, received his last rites and where Joseph Haydn was a choir boy. Just behind the cathedral you'll find Mozart's house where he composed the *Marriage of Figaro*. After our visit, enjoy lunch in a charming café. You'll want to make sure to sample one of Vienna's legendary pastries.

This afternoon, enjoy a backstage tour of the Vienna State Opera House and a tour of the Beethoven House. The late afternoon is yours to explore this romantic city at your own leisurely pace. May we suggest the Palace Museum, where Art Nouveau master Gustav Klimt's works are located. This evening, enjoy the opera, *Turandot at the Vienna Volksoper in Vienna (B, L)*

Day 4, June 21: South to Lake Bled via Haydn's Schloss Esterházy

Before leaving Austria, we'll visit Austria's Burgenland province and the town of Eisenstadt. The major attraction here is the Schloss Esterházy (1364). The composer Joseph Haydn became director of the Esterhazy's musical and theatrical production programs in 1761, and lived there for 29 years, conducting and composing for the castle's residents and guests. Next up, a charming wine estate where you will enjoy a tasting and lunch. Our afternoon culminates with our arrival in mountainous Slovenia. For the next two days you'll enjoy the stunning scenery of Lake Bled and the Julian Alps. *Sleep near Lake Bled (B, L, D)*



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Discover stunning Lake Bled, Slovenia!

Day 5, June 22: Villages, Castles and Vintage Gorge

Dobro jutro! (DOH-broh YOO-troh) or “good morning.” Breathe the sub-Alpine air and luxuriate in the gorgeous surroundings! You’re at the foot of the towering Julian Alps where Lake Bled offers up stunning scenery and a perfect location to explore the mountains, lakes and meadows of this magnificent region. Today’s agenda includes an easy two-mile walk to stunning Vintgar Gorge. There you’ll walk on a flat trail and suspended bridges above a rushing river and powerful cascading waterfalls. Then we are off to the little island on Lake Bled in a “pletna,” a special boat used on Lake Bled. The small church on the island dates back to the 10th century, but the present building was built in the 17th century. According to local tradition, a husband who can carry his newly married bride the 99 steps up from the dock into the church will be ensured a happy marriage, and ringing the bell in the church will make dreams come true. In the afternoon, you’ll have some free-time options. Perhaps you would prefer to enjoy a coffee or a glass of vino in a lakeside café, or stroll around the lake. *Sleep near Lake Bled (B)*

Day 6, June 23: Hemingway’s Julian Alps & the Opera Carmen, in the Roman Arena of Verona: This morning we are off to Verona, Italy via Ljubljana, Slovenia’s quaint gorgeous capital. Enjoy a short, guided visit before being set free for lunch and the chance to browse the canal-lined cobblestone streets. In the afternoon, enjoy a wine tasting at an estate. In the late afternoon we arrive in Verona, where you’ll spend the next three nights. This evening you have tickets to Carmen! To be performed inside the ancient Roman arena of Verona. *Sleep in Verona (B, D)*



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Attend two operas in the Roman Arena of Verona

About the Roman Arena of Verona

After the Colosseum in Rome and the amphitheater in Capua, the Roman arena in Verona is the third largest Roman amphitheater. With its gigantic dimensions of 140 meters in length and 110 meters in width, it dominates the Piazza Brà from the north. Its great acoustics and unique location make the Roman arena the ideal location for events, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors to Verona every year during the festival season to see the opera and theatre performances.

Day 7, June 24: Verona and Verdi's Aida

This morning we'll meet up with an informative local guide and set out to explore the heart of Verona. Our walking tour will include a tour of the Fondazione Arena di Verona, the Roman arena where you'll enjoy two great operas. A highlight of this arena tour is the Arena Museo Opera (AMO). The AMO unveils the creative process which brings an opera to the stage. Librettos, photographs, letters, scores, sketches, set design and costume designs display the striking work of the elements which lead to the genesis of an opera.

Our guided tour continues on to the Piazza delle Erbe. Enjoy a multi-course lunch together at the Café Dante, which features regional specialties. The rest of day is dedicated to La Dolce Far Niente, which means the "sweetness of doing nothing." Or, perhaps you may wish take to a little time to visit Padre Filippini church, where Maria Callas was married in 1949. This evening you will be treated to Verdi's Aida! *Sleep in Verona (B, L)*



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Enjoy a backstage tour of La Fenice in Venice!

*“Venice, its temples and palaces did seem like fabrics of
enchantment piled to heaven.”*

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Day 8, June 25: Romantic Verona

The day is yours to visit Verona’s shops, top museums and romantic streets. We suggest a visit to the Casa di Julietta, Museo Archeologico, Museo Archeologico al Teatro Romano or perhaps you may wish to join a local cooking school. There are so many delightful options! This evening, you have tickets to Verdi’s masterpiece, Nabucco! *Sleep in Verona (B)*

Day 9, June 26: East to Venice via Giotto’s Padua

The Scrovegni Chapel in Padua is an absolute masterpiece of medieval art. Currently a candidate for a place in the UNESCO List of World Heritage sites, the chapel’s interiors host Giotto’s most complete cycle of frescoes. Painted at the peak of his artistic career, these frescoes are, without doubt, his greatest works.

After enjoying an independent lunch, we arrive in Venice! Bursting with baroque cathedrals, outdoor markets, islands and piazzas, Venice was once home to Casa Nova, Vivaldi and Marco Polo. Venice was the single most powerful city state in 13th-century Europe. With an economy the size of France, it is no wonder Shakespeare located his merchant here. Enjoy dinner together this evening. *Sleep in Venice (B, D)*



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Day 10, June 27: La Fenice Opera House and Renaissance Treasures

Today you'll be accompanied by a local art historian for an exploration of the Academia museum, where works by Titian and Tintoretto await your arrival. After, you'll tour one of Europe's great opera houses, La Fenice. Enjoy an included lunch in a nearby café. After, you may wish to visit the Peggy Guggenheim museum, located just around the corner. Spend the afternoon soaking up the rich ambiance of Europe's most romantic city. *Sleep in Venice (B, L)*

Day 11, June 28: Explore Venice

This morning we explore infinite alleyways, the Rialto market & the Piazza San Marco with your local guide. You're then free to take in as many of the 125 islands of Venice as you can. Glass lovers will want to hop a ferry to nearby Murano. Other options include the Doge's Palace, an exploration of the Basilica San Marco or an ascent of the towering *Campanile* (bell tower) for a bird's-eye view of the famous piazza San Marco.

Meet this evening for dinner, following by another musical performance!
Sleep in Venice (B, D)

Day 12, June 29: Return Home with a Lifetime of Memories!

Your journey concludes this morning after breakfast. Airport transfers are included for those joining us on the group flight. *Buon viaggio!*

– Itinerary Details Subject to Change –



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Opera Highlights!

Note: Tickets and program to be confirmed by Feb. of 2022

Vienna

- ❖ Mozart's Magic Flute: Vienna State Opera
- ❖ Puccini's Turandot: Vienna Volksoper

Verona

- ❖ Bizet's Carmen: Ancient Roman Arena Opera Festival
- ❖ Verdi's Aida: Ancient Roman Arena Opera Festival
- ❖ *Verdi's Nabucco: Ancient Roman Arena Opera Festival. To be reserved if an opera is not available in Venice.

Venice

- ❖ La Fenice Opera House (option)
Peter Grimes: Benjamin Britten

Disclaimer: If for any reason, we are not able to attend a specific opera and no replacement is available, guests will be refunded for the missed performance.



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Meet Your Hosts and Italian Guide!



Maestro Anthony Barrese has earned accolades as both a composer and a conductor. He is the recipient of the 2007 Georg Solti Foundation U.S. award for young conductors. His original works have won numerous awards, and he is regularly engaged by opera companies in North America and Italy. As Artistic Director of Opera Southwest he has performed Rossini's *Otello* with the American staged premiere of the finale lieto, and in 2014 he led the new World Premiere of *Amleto*, not heard anywhere since 1871.



Brent Stevens brings you the music you love to wake up to, and to get your morning going... plus News, Weather and Traffic. You get the Morning Mozart every weekday at 8am. At 9am, grab a cup of your favorite hot beverage and join him for Brent's Morning Brew... an hour of music you love, and the back story about great musicians, composers, Broadway Musicals and Films.

At various times Brent has been an actor, director, playwright, composer, and orchestra executive. In addition to his job with KHFM, Brent is a Theatre Sound Designer and produces recordings of live music from chamber ensembles to operas. Brent was born and raised in Albuquerque and has been in show business since he starred in "Peter Pan" at age 11. Learn more about Brent and KHFM [here](#).



Your Guide Natalia Mandelli (far left)

Natalia is a born and bred Roman, so naturally she is passionate about eating, drinking, cooking, history and discussing the universal stereotype of the Italian Mama. (Just don't ask about their relationships to their sons). Oh, and she LOVES dancing! Natalia holds degrees as Interpreter and Translator in English and German and has been a tour manager for fifteen years. Most recently, she has passed the first level of certification to become a sommelier. If you are lucky enough to have her as a guide on one of our Italy trips, you will love traveling with this charming, knowledgeable and energetic woman.



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Know before you go!

Physical requirements: In order to make the most of your custom journey and join all included activities, you should be able to walk at a moderate pace, independently, for one to three miles, often over uneven cobblestones. You should also feel comfortable standing for an extended period of time during walking or museum tours or visits to other sights. Naturally, you may always choose to bow out of an activity and enjoy the sites while sipping a tea or coffee in a café. You can also hire a taxi, pedicab or horse-drawn carriage at your own expense to get you to the next attraction. Remember, you'll also need to be able to maneuver your luggage through the airport. Some museums may not have an elevator, so you'll need to climb a few stairs in order to participate.

Dress: In general, we suggest "casually smart" dress and a good pair of walking shoes. You may leave your formal attire and family jewels at home. If attending classical concerts, men may wish to bring nice slacks and a blazer. Women will feel more comfortable in slacks or a casual dress or skirt. Over the years, we have noted that Europeans and North Americans are dressing less formally for classical and opera events. With the exception of opera performances at the Vienna State Opera.

Travel Insurance: Earthbound Expeditions strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance coverage. We include information on trip insurance in your deposit information.

Concerts and Events: If a planned concert or event is cancelled for any reason, another concert or event will be included in its place. This is not cause for refund. Concerts are subject to change. If no replacement is available, guests will be refunded for the missed performance.

Hosted Journeys: The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

Risk Free Reservations: Your deposit is fully refundable until February 1, 2022. Minus the opera tickets purchased on your behalf.



RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS

Call Earthbound Expeditions at 800-723-8454

or

Email our travel staff at: info@earthboundexpeditions.com



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Earthbound Expeditions offers customized overseas adventures for universities, museums, garden clubs, and numerous public radio stations. Earthbound Expeditions is committed to supporting environmental education, local small businesses and providing guests with a one-of-a-kind, authentic travel experience. Whenever possible, Earthbound reserves locally-owned hotels, utilizes the talents of local lecturers, and dines in family-owned establishments. Earthbound also supports projects like the Children's Eternal Rain Forest of Monteverde, Costa Rica, the Soweto Youth and Development Project of South Africa, the Mama Rosie Orphanage in Cape Town and is assisting families and projects in Cambodia and the USA.

Environmental Commitment

Through Earthbound's proud partnership with the Carbonfund.org, Earthbound Expeditions makes annual donations so as to help offset a guest's carbon footprint. For every guest who signs up on an Earthbound Expedition, a donation will be made to the Carbonfund.

The Carbonfund.org motto, "Reduce what you can; offset what you can't" fits perfectly with Earthbound Expeditions' long-established philosophy of supporting locally-owned businesses, promoting education and embracing the concept of "slow" travel.

By using a simple carbon calculator, Carbonfund.org is able to determine the size of your carbon footprint for any specific domestic or overseas adventure. You then may purchase carbon credits. These credits go towards supporting (1) renewable energy, (2) energy efficiency and (3) reforestation projects.



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