

# Classical Munich & Vienna

## Highlights Include:

- 7 wonderful Classical Music performances at great concert houses & venues, including 2 private concerts with our hosts
- Explore two of the world's finest cultural capitals
- Group size limited to 30 travelers for a personalized experience
- Vienna stay at the iconic Grand Hotel Wien

April 18 - April 30, 2025



Hosted by violinist Kai Gleusteen & pianist  
Catherine Ordroneau



SPECIAL  
TRAVEL  
INTERNATIONAL



## 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 Kaimera 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 Demel and the incredible museums. We'll be there to share it all with you!

**Kai Gleusteen & Catherine Ordronneau**



## GRAND HOTEL WIEN, VIENNA



Grand Hotel Wien Exterior © IHG Hotels & Resorts

The Grand Hotel Wien is located just off the famous Ring Strasse, moments away from the world-renowned Vienna State Opera and the elegant shopping mile of Kaerntner Strasse. An important part of the city since 1870, The Grand Hotel Wien is famed for exquisite hospitality and refined luxury.





# ITINERARY

## Day 1 / Fri, April 18: DEPART CANADA

Depart for Germany

## Day 2 / Sat, April 19: ARRIVE MUNICH

After arrival, check into hotel. Time to relax and then join your hosts Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordroneau for a welcome drink. Get to know your fellow travelers during the first dinner (D)

## Day 3 / Sun, April 20: MUNICH

Introduction to the city during our orientation tour. See the main sites and get an overview of the city's lively and dramatic history. We also visit the Alte Pinakothek (The Old Masters). Have a short break and then it is time for our first music performance after dinner (B,D)

— CONCERT —  
Details TBA

## Day 4 / Mon, April 21: MUNICH

Visit and tour of Nymphenburg Palace, and music related visit in Munich / time at leisure (optional visits like: Neue Pinakothek/ etc ) – evening dinner at the historic Hofbrauhaus (B,D)

## Day 5 / Tue, April 22: MUNICH

Day trip to the foothills of the Alps. We tour Linderhof Castle (learn about King Ludwig, Richard Wagner). Then we spend time in picturesque Oberammergau, the famous Passionplay location in the Alps. We tour the Passionplay House and there is time to enjoy the painted houses of the village before returning to Munich. After dinner we attend another Classical Music event (B,D)

— CONCERT —  
Details TBA



## Day 6 / Wed, April 23: MUNICH – BAD ISCHL – VIENNA

Morning departure from Munich and stop in Bad Ischl, one of the 3 European Culture Capitals 2024 ( the others are Tartu/Estonia and Bodo/Norway – we visit the Kaiservilla, where descendants of the Austrian Habsburg family live to this date. We also learn about Franz Lehar, famous for his Operettas. He spent the last part of his life in Bad Ischl. Then we travel on to the capital. After arrival in Vienna, we check into the Grand Hotel Wien, opened in 1870, a living example of Viennese charm and personalized service. This historic hotel will be your home base for the week. (B,D)

## Day 7 / Thu, April 24: 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 —  
Details TBA

## Day 8 / Fri, April 25: 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 —  
Details TBA



## ITINERARY continued

### Day 9 / Sat, April 26: 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. 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. Tonight we have a special dinner at one of Vienna's finest addresses (B,D)

#### — CONCERT —

Details TBA, private concert with Kai Gleusteen (violin) and Catherine Ordroneau (piano) at Mozarthaus

### Day 10 / Sun, April 27: VIENNA

Morning concert with the Vienna Boys Choir at the Hofburgkapelle. This afternoon, visit and tour Schönbrunn Palace, main summer residence of the Habsburg rulers, inextricably linked to Empress Maria Theresa. (B,D)

#### — CONCERT —

Concert at the Hofburgkapelle with the renowned Vienna Boys Choir

### Day 11 / Mon, April 28: 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. Lunch at a typical local brewery restaurant. Visit the Haydn Mausoleum in the nearby Bergkirche. Return to Vienna for some time at leisure before our evening program. Tonight's dinner plans are left up to you, a chance to try out one of the many great restaurants of the city. (B,L)

#### — CONCERT —

Details TBA - An evening at the Opera



Musikverein, © Wolf Dieter Grabner

### Day 12 / Tue, April 29: 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 13 / Wed, April 30 DEPART VIENNA – ARRIVE CANADA

Flight home or continuation of your European adventure on your own (B)

**CLASSICAL MUSIC EVENTS:** the program for the spring of 2025 will be publicized in early 2025, at which time we will ensure that we include some great performances for our group. Kai and Catherine, our music hosts will chose a program that will be of the highest quality. 7 concerts will be included and maybe there will be the option of adding 1 or 2 more ( depending on the Classical Music offerings by Munich and Vienna for the spring of 2025)



Belvedere, Christian Stempel, © Wien Tourism

## TOUR COSTS in CAD\*

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\*based on a minimum of 20 travelers

**Per person, twin-share                      \$8,990\***

**Single supplement                              \$2,590\***

### INCLUDED

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- Accommodation in comfortable 4 star hotels
- All concerts and special music events as per itinerary (Top 3 category tickets for public concerts)
- Hotel portorage for one piece of luggage per person
- Meals as per itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Modern motor-coach transportation
- Comprehensive sightseeing including guides and admission fees as per itinerary

### NOT INCLUDED

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- International flights
- Airport transfers (since most travelers will chose different airlines, and maybe also add nights before or after the tour, we are NOT including the transfers . It is very easy to just grab a taxi, which gives everyone the best flexibility ! )
- Extra nights pre ( in Munich) or post ( in Vienna) – check with our office for the rates
- Travel insurance (please contact our office for a quote)
- Drinks with meals
- Gratuities for drivers and guides
- Items of a personal nature

## FLIGHTS & TRAVEL INSURANCE

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- Please contact our office for a quote.
- Flights booked with Special Travel include airport transfers
- Our licensed insurance agents can help you with the coverage that will suit your needs

### TOUR PACE and FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

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This itinerary includes some walking through historic city centres and to/from sites – easily accomplished if you are comfortable walking a few kilometres at a standard pace.

Travellers with restricted mobility are welcome but may be unable to enjoy all of the walking tour portions or may require taxis.

## REGISTER ONLINE TODAY

### 2 Ways to Register

#### 1. Scan the QR Code

OR

#### 2. Visit our website [www.sticanada.com/classicalmv25](http://www.sticanada.com/classicalmv25)





## FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

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### RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT:

- » \$1000 per person deposit due at time of booking
- » 2nd installment of \$2,000 pp due by Sep 30, 2024
- » 3rd installment of \$2,000 pp due by Dec 27, 2024
- » Balance due by Feb 14, 2025

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). **Deposits are non-refundable.** The following scale of charges will apply per person when cancellation is received prior to departure:

Until Sep 29, 2024	\$1000
Sep 30 – Dec 26, 2024	\$3,000
Dec 27, 2024 - Feb 13, 2025	\$5,000
From Feb 14, 2025	100% non refundable

*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 travels.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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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