

Great Music Capitals of Europe

Vienna & Prague with MITV!



Prague on the Vltava

Music in the Vineyards invites you to join Michael and Daria Adams and MITV Trustees on a fabulous musical tour

of Vienna and Prague next spring! Join your friends and fans of MITV for exciting concerts in both cities, including performances by the great Vienna Philharmonic in their splendid home, one of the world's finest concert halls, and Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in the Prague theatre of its premiere, and two private chamber performances exclusively for the group, both in historic venues.

Vienna and Prague have long been united by a passion for music. A succession of Habsburg rulers linked them politically, and provided a cultural milieu where the nurturing of musicians and of new music established important musical traditions that endure to this day. On our journey we will walk in the footsteps of the great composers; visit palaces, theatres, and concert halls where music has played a significant role for centuries; and enjoy performances in both great public venues and intimate private spaces. We will also sample the fine food and wine for which Austria and Bohemia are noted, and feast our eyes on outstanding landscapes and city views.

Michael's delightful commentary on the music you'll hear, private events, expert private guides who lead us through major sites, deluxe five-star hotels, fine dining, delightful cafés, free time for additional sight-seeing or shopping, and socializing with your Music in the Vineyards friends make this a cultural experience not to be missed!

May 1–11, 2023*

Violinist **Daria Adams**, the founding Artistic Director of Music in the Vineyards along with her husband Michael, is a member of the world-renowned Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) where she is featured frequently in solo and chamber music performances. Since joining the SPCO in 1987, she has traveled the world in tours to Asia, Europe and across North America. Daria spent four years playing in the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra, where she also took an interest in a musician sitting in the back of the pit—one Michael Adams.

Violist **Michael Adams** has carved out a unique career as a chamber musician, orchestral player, writer on music, radio commentator and producer, host of the Minnesota Orchestra's "Adventures in Music" family concerts. Michael joined the viola section of the Minnesota Orchestra in 1988 after a successful stint as a music producer and host for classical WCAL-FM in Minneapolis/St. Paul, and later, for Minnesota Public Radio.



Tour Highlights

- Prime tickets to four major performances, including the Vienna Philharmonic in the Musikverein, and Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in the theatre of its premiere
- Two private concerts exclusive to the group in historic venues
- Commentary throughout the trip by MITV artistic directors Michael and Daria Adams
- Private tours of principal sites in Vienna and Prague with expert guides
- Private pre-hours tour of the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, one of the finest collections in the world
- Exclusive visit to the Lobkowitz Palace in Nelahozeves, with private viewing of important Beethoven manuscripts
- Private wine tasting in the lovely Wachau region of Austria, followed by a boat ride on the Danube
- Deluxe five-star accommodations in both cities
- Fine dining in some of the region's best restaurants: breakfast daily, 6 lunches and 3 dinners
- Lunches, dinners and receptions served with wine in MITV style!

Tour cost: \$6,590, ground only, based on double occupancy. See registration form for further details.

Tour limited to 25 participants or as hotel space allows.

The Great Music Capitals tour is an exclusive presentation by MITV and is organized by The Grand Tour Travel Company, Peterborough, New Hampshire.

*Tour begins May 2 in Vienna



Musikverein, Vienna

Monday, May 1

Flights depart U.S. for travel to Vienna, with arrival the following day.

Tuesday, May 2 **Willkommen!**

Arrival, private airport transfers, and check-in at the lovely 5-star Hotel Bristol located in the heart of Vienna's historic city center. Our **welcome dinner** is at the Bristol, one of the city's finest restaurants.

Wednesday, May 3 **City of the Habsburgs**

Breakfast served **daily** at both hotels. Strolling through the historic center from the cathedral of Saint Stephen's, where Bruckner played the great organ, to venues where Beethoven masterpieces premiered, we follow in the footsteps of many of the great composers who made Vienna their home. **Lunch** is at a notable Viennese café. Following a music preview by Michael, we head to the Brahms Hall in the Musikverein for a recital by Isabelle Faust, one of the world's premier violinists, in an all-Bach program, her specialty.

Thursday, May 4

Old Masters & Art Nouveau Vienna

The morning begins with a private pre-public hours tour of the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of the world's finest collections. Around the city's ring road we view several landmarks of the *Jugendstil*, Vienna's iconic Art Nouveau movement, stopping off at the Secession for Gustav Klimt's stunning *Beethoven Frieze*. **Lunch** follows. Tonight, you visit one of the world's most famous opera houses, as star soprano Pretty Yende sings the title role in Massenet's tragic tale of *Manon* at the Vienna State Opera.

Friday, May 5 **The Blue Danube**

No visit to Vienna would be complete without a day along the Danube, and our excursion will take us up the river to the great Abbey of Melk, where Mozart once played the organ, followed by **lunch** and a private tasting of fine Wachau wines. Tonight, the Vienna Philharmonic commands the acoustic marvel of the Musikverein. Czech maestro Jakub Hrusa conducts Prokofiev's fiendish 3rd piano concerto with the virtuoso Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov at the keyboard and the Shostakovich Symphony no. 5.

Saturday, May 6 **Palaces and Gardens**

A free morning in Vienna affords the opportunity to take in the renowned Lipizzaner horses at the Spanish Riding School. In the afternoon we tour the sumptuous 18th-century palace and gardens of Schönbrunn, the Hapsburg summer residence, and stop off to pay our respects to the graves of Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms and others at Vienna's Central Cemetery. An exclusive, private concert where Beethoven premiered his groundbreaking "Eroica" Symphony and other important works in Vienna.

A **reception** with the musicians follows, then **dinner** at one of the city's best restaurants.

Sunday, May 7 **Welcome to Prague!**

Today we bid *auf Wiedersehen* to Vienna and transfer by private motorcoach to one of Europe's most beautiful cities, Prague. On the way we'll stop for **lunch** in the border town of Velke Mezirici. Upon arrival in Prague's charming Malá Strana (Little Quarter), we check in to the music-themed Aria Hotel, where every room is named for a composer, and a vast music library is at your disposal. We begin our exploration of the great city with a private visit to the Strahov Monastery, founded in 1143, with views overlooking the city and a superb Baroque library.

Monday, May 8 **Castle Hill**

We ascend Prague's Castle Hill to visit the Royal Palace, the cathedral of St. Vitus, and the Lobkowitz Palace with its prized art collection, including **lunch** there. In the evening, we enjoy another private chamber concert in the stunning Mirror Chapel at the Klementinum.

Tuesday, May 9 **Old Town Prague & Patrons of Beethoven**

Passing through the Old Town Square to watch the extraordinary astronomical clock, we take a walking tour of the unique Jewish Quarter. Visits to the Old Jewish Cemetery, a veritable tumble of centuries-old tombstones, and the gothic Old-New Synagogue are fascinating. **Lunch** is at a lovely restaurant in the Art Nouveau Municipal House. A unique excursion west of the city takes us to the Lobkowitz family's castle at Nelahozeves, where after a tour and **wine tasting**, resident librarians will dip into the vaults to show us original letters and other manuscripts of Beethoven. The 7th Prince Lobkowitz was one of the composer's most valuable patrons. Evening free.

Wednesday, May 10 **Mozart & Gala**

A free day to explore the city on your own, as well as other optional visits planned for you. After our gala **farewell dinner**, settle into your seat at the 18th century Estates Theatre for a performance of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, where it premiered in 1787!

Thursday, May 11 **Adié! (Farewell!)**

The tour ends after breakfast and private transfers to Prague Airport for flights back to the US, arriving the same day.

Itinerary is subject to change. Meals in bold are included in the price of the tour.



Melk Abbey on the Danube



Estates Theatre, Prague