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REOPENING OF THE UPPER BELVEDERE

From 1. July, 2020



Exterior view Upper Belvedere, photo: Lukas Schaller / Belvedere, Vienna

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New, new, new:

€4 online ticket in July, two new paintings by Gustav Klimt, a studio for art education, more accessibility, digital audio guide

Short vacation for €4: the Upper Belvedere is reopening its doors on July 1 with this fantastic offer. The involuntary closure has been put to good use: the display of the permanent collection has been updated and the technical infrastructure improved, a new studio for art education completed. The summer months will see an education program that focuses on Austria and its nine provinces. For everyone who would like to delve deeper into art history, there is now an audio guide available via app on your own personal smartphone.

Stella Rollig, Belvedere CEO: *"With its unique architecture and world-famous art collection, the Upper Belvedere is ready to be rediscovered this summer. No other museum can offer anywhere near as profound an overview of Austrian art as the Belvedere."*

The rehangings of the collection in the Upper Belvedere presents a multifaceted narrative of eight hundred years of Austrian art history. There are new objects to be seen in many areas of the collection, whether new acquisitions or new loans. Thematically, the focus is on the collection areas Baroque, Biedermeier, and Vienna around 1900. A sparser hanging increases the quality of your visit and makes it easier to comply with physical distancing regulations.

Two new loans from the Gustav Klimt | Wien 1900-Private Foundation (Klimt Foundation) are worth particular mention. The directorate of the foundation, Peter Weinhäupl and Sandra Tretter, has enabled us to present at Klimt's paintings *Two Woman Friends* (1907)

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and *Girl in Green* (c. 1898). *The Bride* (1917/18), likewise a loan from the Klimt Foundation, will remain on display at the Belvedere.

In line with the motto "vacation in Austria," a room has been dedicated to the summer retreat, with three of the famous landscape paintings that Gustav Klimt painted at Lake Attersee on display: *Forester's House in Weissenbach I* (1914), *Schloss Kammer on Lake Attersee* (1909/10), and *Avenue of Schloss Kammer Park* (1912). *The Country House* (c. 1908) by Koloman Moser and the *Swimming Pool* (1905) by Ludwig Ferdinand Graf complete this summer excursion.

In the field of Baroque art, the popular "Character Heads" by Franz Xaver Messerschmidt can once again be admired in the side octagon of the palace.

The second floor is home to the largest Biedermeier collection in the world. A room here has been dedicated entirely to portrait painting and houses works by the most important portraitists of the Biedermeier period, like Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller, Franz Eybl, and Friedrich von Amerling.

Likewise on the second floor visitors can admire the two works acquired last year with the proceeds of a fundraising dinner: *Bird Flight* (1951/52) by Erika Giovanna Klien and *Les anges de la paix* (1944) by Greta Freist.

Those who want to use their short vacation in the Belvedere to travel back in time to the Middle Ages, should see the *In-Sight* exhibition *The Master of Mondsee*, which has been extended until September 13, 2020. Also still on display is the Carlone Contemporary intervention by Renate Bertlmann.

During the summer months the Belvedere is offering nine museum walks, during which stories from the history of Austria's provinces will be told that relate to the Belvedere's collection.

New this summer is a **digital audio guide** for an in-depth art experience. 120 works are presented via the smartphone app Smartify: download the app, scan the picture with your phone, and delve into the work's history. The app is available free of charge for both Android and iOS.

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The Upper Belvedere is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

To celebrate its reopening, the Belvedere is offering its *Companion Guide* to the collection and its brand-new architecture guide for the special price of €19.90 instead of €29.80 in the museum shop.

The Belvedere is also taking part in the summer offer for the BundesMuseenCard. From July 1 to September 15 this "multi-museum ticket" for one visit each to all eight federal museums costs just €19 instead of €59. Available at the Belvedere ticket desks and via www.bundesmuseencard.at.

For further information and press photos, go to www.belvedere.at/en/press.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Contact	Prinz Eugen-Straße 27, 1030 Wien T +43 1 795 57-0 www.belvedere.at
Guided Tours	T + 43 1 795 57-134 M public@belvedere.at
Opening Hours	Daily 10am to 6pm
Regular Entry	€ 16 (Upper Belvedere) € 4 Online-Tickets in July, 2020
Press Contact	Belvedere Press Office Prinz Eugen-Straße 27, 1030 Vienna T +43 1 795 57-177 M press@belvedere.at

Complimentary images can be downloaded for press purposes at www.belvedere.at/press.

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The Belvedere. History and Architecture

The Belvedere is one of the most beautiful intact Baroque ensembles in Europe. People from all over the world are mesmerized by the ornate splendor of the unique Upper and Lower Belvedere palaces and by the charm of the annexes like the Palace Stables or lion compound. An architecture guide, written by Belvedere Curator Georg Lechner, now reveals the secrets of the buildings' history: Prince Eugene's summer residence, furnished with all that was luxurious and expensive; first used as a public museum under the Habsburgs; residence of the heir to the throne Franz Ferdinand; and finally art's permanent home. At the same time, the Belvedere's garden with its exotic plants became a popular local recreation area for the Viennese population.

Edited by Stella Rollig and Georg Lechner

In 9 languages: DE / EN / FR / IT / ES / RU / JA / KO / CN (Mandarin)

Belvedere Companion Guide

Gustav Klimt's Kiss is world-famous, the golden age of "Vienna around 1900" legendary, the Biedermeier collection a jewel: The Belvedere Companion Guide offers a comprehensive overview of eight hundred years of art in Austria. Over one hundred works from the permanent collection—from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century—are vividly described and explained in this book. Short introductions to the artistic periods provide in-depth information that is supplemented by biographies of the most important artists in the collection—from Franz Xaver Messerschmidt, the creator of the "Character Heads," to Egon Schiele, whose portraits have lost none of their original urgency.

Edited by Stella Rollig and Rolf H. Johannsen

Authors: Stephanie Auer, Björn Blauensteiner, Rolf H. Johannsen, Kerstin Krenn, Georg Lechner, Susanne Wögerbauer

In 8 languages: DE / EN / FR / IT / ES / RU / JA / KO

Special offer to celebrate the museum's reopening: buy the Companion Guide and the architecture guide for only €19.90 instead of €29.80 in all Belvedere shops.

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