

# CULTURE, ART, MUSIC and THEATRE

Graz is an exciting city with a historic city centre including a variety of culture. Contemporary art and architecture enriches the cultural scene as much as classical culture: the Graz Opera House, theatres, festivals of classical music and “The friendly alien” art centre.

## Opera and Theatre

### Graz Opera House

The Opera House in Graz is a neo-baroque building which is located at the *Opernring*. The *Lichtschwert* sculpture in front of the building is a symbol of openness and tolerance and forms a contrast to the Opera House.

### Schauspielhaus theatre Graz

*Schauspielhaus* theatre Graz is famous for its modern and historic performances and includes three different stages: *Hauptbühne* (main stage), *Probeprobühne* (rehearsal stage) and *Ebene 3*.

### Next Liberty

Next Liberty is a theatre for kids and young people as well as the best address for families. They have over 200 plays a season and a huge variety of performances.

### Theatercafe

Quite a few comedians started their career at *Theatercafe*. The *Theatercafe* is also famous for its *Eierspeis à l'Autriche*.

### Small theaters

In Graz you will find several small theaters (information only in German):

- [Theater im Bahnhof](#)
- [Theater im Keller](#)
- [Theater am Ortweinplatz](#) (for children and youth)
- [Kasperltheater](#) (for children)
- [Kleine Komödie Graz](#)

## Concerts and Events

### Orpheum

In 1899 the *Orpheum* opened as a small variety theater in Graz, was later a cinema and then a “house for the youth”. Even today the Orpheum attracts an audience at all ages with its programme of local cabaret, concerts of international pop/rock bands or its own children’s programme.

### Kasematten

The *Kasematten* are famous for its open air concerts in summer and located on the beloved *Schlossberg*, which is a landmark for the Grazer people. The old walls of the *Kasematten* were formerly used as a dungeon for prisoners.

## Dom im Berg

The name explains the location: it is a dome inside the mountain which is used as an underground event. As a relic of older times it belongs to the old tunnel system of the Schlossberg that served as an air raid shelter for up to 40.000 people. *Dom im Berg* with its unique architecture is a top-class performance venue for concerts, exhibitions, theatres, congresses, balls as well as clubbing.

## Festivals

Graz offers a variety of festivals including film, art, music and culture. More information about the festivals you will find here:

- [Mountain film festival](#)
- [Diagonale](#) (film festival)
- [Styriarte](#) (music)
- [La Strada](#) (art, music, culture)
- [Elevate](#) (music, art, discourse)
- [Steirischer Herbst](#) (art and music)

## Casino Graz

If you enjoy gambling, fun and a culinary delight you can spend a fascinating night including dinner at Casino in Graz.

## Museums and Cultural Heritage

### Kunsthaus

The *Kunsthaus Graz* (locally known as the Friendly Alien) opened its doors in 2003 and was a landmark of Graz's year as European Capital of Culture. Since then it has become an attraction for art lovers and the culturally minded from all over the world. The BIX media façade of the building was designed to act as an instrument of art communication.

### Styrian Armoury

The Styrian Armoury accommodates one of the largest remaining, historic armoury in the world. 32.000 objects are signs of a conflict-ridden past, whose bogeymen and prejudices are still with us. Attracting around 55.000 visitors annually, it is the *Universalmuseum Joanneum's* most-visited institution without an exhibitions role.

### Eggenberg Castle

*Schloss Eggenberg* has been a UNESCO World Heritage since 2010. The castle includes state rooms with original interior, historical furniture and over 500 ceiling paintings. These rooms can only be visited as part of a guided tour. The Palace Park impresses with its picturesque woodland and sweeping lawns that invites to take a stroll through the park.

### Children's museum Frida und Fred

*FRida & freD* is a house specially designed for children (between 3 to 12 years old). The offer ranges from exhibitions to theater performances and programmes developed with children in mind and for children. Complex connections are explained through a form of experiments and objects in a child-friendly way.

### Open-air museum Stübing

This *open-air museum* is located only 15 kilometres away from Graz and is a popular destination for families, recreation seeking and history interested people. You can explore the museum's collection of historic farmsteads set in an authentic atmosphere and learn more about the lives of people in the past, about their traditions and celebrations. *Stübing* is one of the ten biggest open-air museums in Europe.

### Lurgrotte Cave in Semriach and Peggau

The *Lurgrotte* is a cave with two entrances, one is in Semriach and one is in Peggau. Due to a flood in 1975 it is not possible to go through the whole cave from Semriach to Peggau. Though you can take an adventure and explore the caves from both entrances. Information on guided tours you will find here:

- [Lurgrotte Cave Semriach](#)
- [Lurgrotte Cave Peggau](#)

### Ruins of Gösting castle

The *ruins of Gösting castle* offer the perfect destination for a trek within easy reach of the city: with bus line 40 in about 20 minutes to Gösting terminus and 20 minutes on foot from the Schlossplatz square in Gösting. On the steep but short ascent to the castle you pass by the *Jungfernsprung*: a legend says that from this place the lovesick and grief-stricken Anna von Gösting threw herself to her doom. From the castle ruins you have impressive views of the strategically important valley of the river Mur, Graz itself and the landscape around Gösting. Inside the Gösting Castle's historic walls you can take a break at the *old tavern* and enjoy the beautiful view from the terrace.

For more information about museums in Graz and Styria that belong to the *Universalmuseum Joanneum* use the following website: <http://www.museum-joanneum.at/en>

**Feel free to contact the Welcome Center of TU Graz for help!**