



“World Peace Choral Festival” Vienna, Austria

International Choir Festival & Competition for Youth Choirs



Founded in 2008, the World Peace Choral Festival wants to promote music as an instrument for world peace. Gerald Wirth, Artistic Director of the Vienna Boys' Choir is also the Artistic Director of the World Peace Choral Festival. Under the motto **“Coming together to sing, singing for a better future”**, the World Peace Choral Festival aims at providing a platform for children and young people of different countries to perform, to communicate and to create a better intercultural understanding. **The festival follows the idea of supporting intercultural dialogue and cultural while music is regarded as a universal language which has the power to overcome cultural boundaries and to unify people.**

Highlights of the festival are the **opening ceremony at St. Stephan's Cathedral, choir performances at the United Nations Headquarters and the gala concert in the famous “Golden Hall” of the Vienna Musikverein.**

The repertoire of the participating choirs covers classical and folk music, sacred and contemporary music as well. There are 2 possible categories: the “competition category” and the “celebration category” (non-competing category).

Choirs who choose the celebration category will be participating in master classes conducted by renowned music professors, conductors and experts on choral music. Choirs who decide to compete will be judged by a jury of internationally renowned music experts. **Common events** are open to all participants of the festival and mainly consist of **concerts and performances at some of Vienna's finest churches, famous concert halls, cultural and social institutions as well as a BBQ party at a Viennese restaurant.**

Be inspired by the spirit of the World Peace Choral Festival and enjoy an unforgettable stay in Vienna with your young singers.

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Our program for your trip:

Wednesday: Arrival in Vienna

**Upon arrival in Vienna, check into your booked accommodation.
Meet your local festival assistant** for a brief welcome meeting.

Afternoon: Opening ceremony at St. Stephan's Cathedral. **(All choirs are welcome to attend the opening ceremony as audience).**

Evening: Group dinner.

Thursday: Opening Ceremony & "Voices of Peace" Concerts

Breakfast at accommodation.

Morning: At leisure – upon request, we can gladly arrange a city tour that day (surcharge).

Evening: "Voices for Peace"- concerts.

In some of Vienna's finest churches or famous concert halls, the choirs are invited to perform one concert (duration 15 min. per choir).

Friday: "Concert of Peace" & "Music without Borders" concert

Breakfast at accommodation.

At the invitation of the United Nations in Vienna, all attending choirs will have the chance to **perform in front of the United Nations Headquarters in Vienna (VIC) for diplomats and international guests.** Each choir is requested and invited to sing one traditional song from their country (duration max. 4 min.).

"Music without Borders" (part 1)

Concerts in cultural and social institutions in the afternoon.



Saturday: Master Class, Competition & BBQ Party

Breakfast at accommodation.

From morning until afternoon:

For the **choirs participating in the celebration category (the non-competitive category)**, workshops will be organized at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. Mr. Gerald Wirth, the artistic director of the Vienna Boys Choir and the artistic director of the festival, and his colleagues will coach the choirs with different themes and techniques.

Each choir will attend an individual workshop of approx. 2 hours.

The choirs attending the choir competition have the opportunity to rehearse. The participants will then **perform in front of the jury**, consisting of renowned choir directors and experts. **After their competitive performance, each choir will attend a short workshop and receive feedback from the jury.**

Afternoon:

Prizing award concert at the MuTh. All competing choirs will receive different **awards (Gold, Silver, Bronze etc.)** and perform at the concert.

“Music without Borders” - Concerts in cultural and social institutions (part 2)

In the afternoon, the choirs are invited to perform one concert in the “Music without Borders” category.

Evening:

In the evening, a **barbecue party** will take place where all participants of the festival can sing, dance and celebrate together while enjoying food and drinks. An Austrian folk music group will accompany the event through the evening.

Sunday: Closing Ceremony & Gala Concert at Musikverein

Breakfast at accommodation.

The rehearsals and **gala concert will take place in the famous "Golden Hall" of the Vienna Musikverein** the whole day. The attending choirs have the opportunity to watch the rehearsal and the **performance of the famous Vienna Boys Choir.**

Choir performance (Duration: 6 minutes / 2 songs per choir).

Distribution of certificates to all attending choirs. All participating choirs will join together and sing one common song.



Monday: Departure

After breakfast individual departure.
Pre- and post-tour program on request.

The program is subject to change!

Donation sales for UNICEF

During the festival, the participating choirs may join the initiative and sell their choir souvenirs and merchandising articles.

This way, the choirs can promote their music and donate to children in need. **The sales income will be donated to UNICEF. UNICEF Austria welcomes the goodwill acts of the choirs and will issue a certificate to each donating choir.**