

## Linz sparkles with christmas glitter

“Linz verändert”, (Linz changes) is the slogan of the city and Linz is enthusiastic about and encourages enthusiasm for promoting new ventures.

No other city in Austria has changed so drastically in recent years as has Linz. A modern city has emerged, full of dynamic energy and offering a high quality of life.

The city on the Danube is an attractive venue for visitors combining past present and future. One more reason for taking a city holiday full of diversity in a city full of surprises.

### Time of amazement

Advent in Linz whets your appetite, makes you want more. The aroma of Christmas markets, confectioners and cafes, of gingerbread and Linzer Torte the local speciality, the glowing silhouette of the city which unifies ancient and modern and the temptation to buy just one more Christmas present in the city of Linz, shorten the waiting time to Christmas Eve and the arrival of the Christkind (Christ-child).

### Linz has a programme

Culture takes place in Linz. Throughout the year it presents itself, varied and surprising. Linz creates a magic atmosphere for its visitors with hundreds of Christmas **crib scenes** in shop windows, in churches and other public buildings. The options at Advent in Linz are crowned by the **Christmas Markets** in the Hauptplatz (Central Square) the Volksgarten, and many small markets in squares and courtyards throughout the city.(21.11-24.12 2009.)

The exhibition “**the National saints of Europe**” at the Schlossmuseum Linz from 29th November 2009 to May 1st 2010 extends an invitation for a period of reflection. In co-operation with north- Italian Tolmezzo the saints are presented with reference to their political and cultural backgrounds .

An ancient tradition has been re-introduced in Linz: from the high tower of the Stadtpfarrkirche (the city parish church)at 18.00 each evening, when the **fanfare of trumpets** resounds in every direction towards the heavens.

#### Kontakt Presse

On the Linzer Hauptplatz it is possible for visitors to try their hands at the old craft of **candle making** and take home the products of their labour.

Concerts and choir evenings in churches and in the Brucknerhaus create the spiritual atmosphere for Christmas, and in the theatres, cabarets and cinemas of Linz, winter evenings are shorter and more pleasurable.

Linz knows how to celebrate. The **New Year** is ushered in with Theatre, concerts, Danube cruises and the Silvester races. New Year's day is somewhat quieter, with the traditional "Aperschnalzen" in front of the City Hall at 11 a.m. and the New Year's Concert at the Brucknerhaus at 16.00.

Christmas is renowned as the most peaceful and reflective time of the year. Linz offers programmes as an antidote to the pre-Christmas stress, inviting the visitors to enjoy some peace. Time for thought and reflection can be found in the **exhibitions** at the Linz museums e.g. "Das Grüne Band Europas" (The Green Belt of Europe) in the Linz Schlossmuseum, and "See this sound" in the Lentos Art Museum (both running until 10 January 2010. At the Mariendom every day at 12.15 until January 2nd, there is an opportunity to tank up on spiritual energy with **meditation** "Schweigen mit dem Turmeremiten", and for anyone seeking relaxation, a cruise on the Danube would be just the right thing.

The visitors to **Akustikon** dive into the world of sound. This place of sound is not only concerned with theory, research and acoustic consultancy but invites children and adults to participate in an adventure of the ears.(Pfarrgasse 9-13, 4020 Linz, [www.hoerstadt.at](http://www.hoerstadt.at))

### **Trip to Linz**

The weekend package from the Linz tourist association offers 2 nights in a 3 or 4 star hotel with an accompanying Christmas programme and a Linz09 3-day travel card, from €96 per person. They recommend travelling by train to the award-winning Linz central station or by plane to the Blue Danube airport, which links Linz to most important European airports several times a day.

### **Information**

[www.advent.linz.at](http://www.advent.linz.at) | [www.linz.at/tourismus](http://www.linz.at/tourismus) | [www.linz09.at](http://www.linz09.at)

#### **Kontakt Presse**

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