

OPTIONAL TRIPS - MONDAY, AUG. 14

Stifttheilgenkreuz in the Vienna Woods and a visit to Baden

Spend the day in Lower Austria to visit Heiligenkreuz in the picturesque Vienna Woods and tour the beautiful medieval monastery. You will arrive in time to hear the famous monks sing their Chorgebet, mid-day chant.

We will then head to Baden for lunch at the "Gasthaus Martinek" --- a buffet of soup, a main course and dessert---. followed by a city tour of beautiful Baden. You will then have some free time to explore Baden on your own or spend time in the City Park, Spa Park or Casino! We will be back in Eisenstadt by 6:15 and in plenty of time before the Gala Concert that evening.



Stift Heiligenkreuz, peacefully situated in the middle of the Vienna Woods, is one of the most beautiful medieval monasteries. It is the second oldest Cistercian monastery in the world and the oldest continuously active and inhabited one. It was founded in 1133 by St. Leopold III and the House of Babenberg. Currently it has 77 members, 18 affiliated parishes and a Pontifical Theological Academy founded in 1802, with about 180 students. CHORGE BET: These days the monks of Heiligenkreuz sing the Office in [Gregorian chant](#) five times a day.

Baden bei Wien is a spa town in Lower Austria. It is located about 26 km south of Vienna and was once the main summer resort of Vienna's well to do.

Beethoven stayed in Baden a number of times during the summers working on many of his compositions, including the *Missa Solemnis*, and completed his Ninth Symphony here. Some of his residences can still be seen today.



Baden possesses a Kurhaus (Spa), 15 bathing establishments (pools) and a lovely parish church in Gothic style. The town offers several parks and very picturesque surroundings. There are also nearly 70 Heurige, wine pubs.

Grand Casino Baden has a 30,000 sq.ft. casino floor. Dress code is enforced, jackets for men.....and an admission fee is charged. The Grand Casino Baden is all first class and is considered one of the most beautiful in Europe today.

Date: Monday, Aug. 14

Duration: Bus departs Eisenstadt hotels at 7:30 am and returns at 3:30 pm.

Price: \$120 per person; includes transportation, 2-hour guided city tour and free time in Baden, one hour guided tour through Stift Heiligenkreuz followed by 20 minute choir prayer chant, 3-course luncheon menu at the Kloostergasthof Heiligenkreuz (excl. drinks). Minimum of 20 persons.