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Our 3 Generation European Vacation - Vienna, Austria -Country 5 of 6

Thursday, July 23, 2015

After stopping for 1 night in Bratislava to return our cars, we arranged a "limo" for the 45 min drive to Vienna. When DH & I travel alone, we take the bus between these 2 cities for 7 Euros each. However, considering the time and hassle of 6 people dragging vacation luggage, the additional cost of the door to door service of a limo was the better choice. After all, while we could walk TO the bus station in Bratislava, the route to our apartment in Vienna was more difficult.

The apartment was a beautiful duplex with 2 bedrooms & 3 bathrooms on the top floor of a building near Karlsplatz. We could see Charles Church from our terrace. So I'll start there.



The front of the church is being renovated, however it is the interior which we find to be most unique.

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The scaffolding on the right is an elevator which allows visitors to get up close to the ceiling. On our first visit years ago we thought this was temporary while restoration of the frescoes was in progress. Yet it's still here and very popular.





Walking through Stephenplatz and old town is a trip back in time. Our grandson Steven and St Stephens Cathedral







A walk up to the Belvedere Palace provides a beautiful view of the city.



We always get our picture taken here



Vienna is a city of music. The Opera House



And other reminders throughout the city In parks



And even on the sidewalk



OK, here's one you probably didn't expect. Musical accompaniment?



OK, the truth. This is from an earlier visit to Vienna. No one would pose for me this time. Of course, Schonbrunn Palace was on our list



As well as the grounds which included this maze



As is our custom, unusual destinations are on our list too.

How many visitors to Vienna go to the Technical Museum? When you're married to an engineer and 2 of your 3 children are engineers, you visit more than once. It is within walking distance of Schonbrunn.



We like to include non-touristy sites, but the next one was a "good news/bad news" kind of place. There is an archeological site outside of Vienna called Carnuntum. Our research led us to believe this would be an interesting site especially considering that our family had never been to Rome, Athens, Ephesus or Pompeii as we had.

We took the train to the site and it was remarkable in that it was once a huge Roman city.



That was being excavated



And rebuilt according to the research of ancient drawings and descriptions using materials as close as possible to what was available at the time.





If you have LOTS of time to spend in the area, it's worth a look at the FIRST of the 3 sites. In retrospect, we should have skipped our journey to the 2nd Carnuntum location – only a museum. At that point we returned to Vienna.

However, our grandsons did get to play "gladiator" at the recreated "training school."





I appreciate how willing they have been to pose for Grandma throughout the trip.



