

Salzburg - Birthplace of Mozart

[Back to my 'Brad and Anna UK and Europe 2016' blog](#)

[Previous Entry](#)

[Next Entry](#)

Salzburg, Austria
Thursday, June 9, 2016

Yet such is oft the course of deeds that move the wheels of the world: small hands do them because they must, while the eyes of the great are elsewhere.
J.R.R. Tolkien

Tuesday 7th of June 2016

A casual start this morning as our train to Salzburg is not due to leave Vienna Hauptbahnhof (Hbf) until 11:30 am. We trudged off with our suitcases trailing behind for the 1.6 km walk at about 10:15 which got us there in plenty of time. This train trip is straight forward with no connections. Once again we were on a RailJet which got up to 230 km/h on some sections. This is the fastest land transport we have ever been on and double the speed of most Australian express passenger services. The scenery as per normal is fantastic. Everything is so green and the picture is framed with high mountains in the background.

Before long we arrived at Salzburg Hbf. It was a warm walk to our accommodation, once again about 1.6 km. Salzburg is very pretty. Not as big as Vienna and not as grandiose, having a more relaxed feel. The part of town we are in is not open to vehicle traffic and there are lots of bicycles about whizzing past us at breakneck speed. The streets are lined with small cobblestones, so it is a noisy task pulling our suitcases along with their little plastic wheels protesting loudly. Our apartment is on the first floor of a very old building, but this one had a lift! We have our own kitchen, lounge, laundry, bedroom and bathroom. Despite being old, the inside has all modern appointments and looks very comfortable. The walls are about 1 metre thick, made of stone, and some parts have the hard plaster bevelled off to reveal solid rock behind. The building is set against a cliff wall where a very large hill rises behind.

We had a quick look around the old town on the other side of the River Salzach, a very fast flowing river indeed.

We returned to our side of the river for dinner at a quaint cafe restaurant. Anna had a local variation of pizza which was very nice. I had a Kransky with mustard and grated horseradish.

Fine and sunny 27 degrees. Walked 12 km.

Wednesday 8th of June

We decided to do the touristy things today, but not before doing some more research about local foods. While we were looking around yesterday, we bought a local breakfast delicacy to have this morning. It's called brezel, or pretzel, but it is nothing like the salty cracker things you might normally think of. This one is huge, it's made of some type of dough, and it has chocolate on the outside and jam on the inside.

Having finished our food research, we headed off to the funicular that takes you to the Festung Hohensalzburg (Salzburg Castle). Somehow we missed it and ended up walking up some very steep lanes arriving at the back gate of the castle. One bonus of doing this was that the entry was cheaper!

One might think that if you've seen one castle, you've seen them all. Well that's what we thought anyway, but it is quite the opposite. Each castle has its own features and traditions formed by the history of the local area. This castle was inhabited by a church cardinal rather than royalty. It was a fortified premises though and had many centuries of additions and alterations to ensure that it remained secure against potential enemies.

We took the funicular down the side of the mountain back into the classic Salzburg old town area and looked at all the main features such as the squares, palaces, fountains, etc. It is a very pretty place.

We decided to eat in tonight as we have a proper kitchen.

27 degrees, with thunder clouds in afternoon but no rain.

Thursday 9th of June 2016

We both had a bit of a sleep-in today. This travelling business is tiring work, but somebody has to do it.

Today is our first day of real rain since arriving in Europe. It's been steady all night and the forecast is for it to continue most of the day. It started to lighten up a bit around midday so we decided to go for a walk up the large hill behind our apartment - Kapuzinerberg. There is supposed to be a cafe up on top so we thought we'd have a late lunch there. The path up begins as a narrow cobbled laneway through an arch off the main street. It is so steep that the footpath is steps. There are little stone cubby houses on the way with sculptures of the stations of the cross, and before long you come to a church. The path continues upwards, and on this day into the clouds. There was a sign with the name of the restaurant at the top of the hill next to the path and it had a red sign hanging underneath, but it was in German. I suspected it said, "the restaurant is closed today", but we thought it could also say "no cars beyond this point", so we kept on going. It's quite a climb and after a while we arrived at the old chateau - and it was indeed closed. The clouds did part for a while allowing us to appreciate a good view of Salzburg below.

We tramped back into town and had a bite to eat. As Salzburg is the birthplace of Wolfgang Mozart, we thought we had better do a Mozart featured afternoon. We did attempt to book in to a Mozart concert while here in Salzburg but all are booked out until Saturday. Tip for next time - book before you arrive. Anyway, we visited the house where he was born and lived as a child. It was very interesting.

So here I sit listening to Mozart's Piano Concert No. 9 in F major, in Salzburg, typing up this blog while smelling the aromas of Anna cooking dinner in our apartment. Doesn't get much better than that.

Rain, about 17 degrees. Walked 9 km.

Comments

Hi brad & Anna, I am glad you are enjoying Mozart in Salzburg, we have been enjoying Chopin in Bentleigh as Alex prepares for his exam next week. The weather here has been cold and generally crap. It should clear up for the long weekend tho. We are off to inverloch with some friends, including a hike at the Prom. Keep on travelling well, we are enjoying your blogs. C&C xx

— From Carol, on Jun 10, 2016 at 11:51AM

Pictures & Video



Salzach River



Laneway view from front of our apartment



View across Salzach River to old town



View towards castle in old town



Inside castle grounds



Selfie in "Sound of Music" location
Story and comments!



Another "Sound of Music" scene



Beginning of walk up to Kapuzinerburg
Comments!



Halfway up



Not too far now...
Comments!



Cloudy view
Comments!



Mozart's childhood house



Scene near river



Mozart's statue



Salzach River

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Laneway view from front of our apartment

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



View across Salzach River to old town

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



View towards castle in old town

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Inside castle grounds

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Selfie in "Sound of Music" location

Mirabell Palace grounds

Comments:

Hey, Ya missed the wet stuff, floods in Paris, Germany etc. London, flash floods upto 2m deep So don't gripe too much.

— From Craig McArthur, on Jun 9, 2016 at 10:21PM

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Another "Sound of Music" scene

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Beginning of walk up to Kapuzinerburg

Comments:

Sigh, I want to be there.

— From Craig McArthur, on Jun 9, 2016 at 10:22PM

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Halfway up

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Not too far now...

Comments:

June! and still Spring foliage. Wow, Summer must be really short there.

— From Craig McArthur, on Jun 9, 2016 at 10:24PM

This is the sort of forest to hear a woodpecker.

— From Anne H, on Jun 10, 2016 at 12:38AM

Anne we did not hear a woodpecker, but we did see a small squirrel and a black and orange lizard, which looked like it should be in the Australian outback!

— From Anna, on Jun 10, 2016 at 07:33PM

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Cloudy view

Comments:

Ah! That is what Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang Castles are meant to look like! Gorgeous.

— From Craig McArthur, on Jun 9, 2016 at 10:27PM

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Mozart's childhood house

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Scene near river

[Back to the top of this entry.](#)



Mozart's statue

[Back to the top of this entry](#)

Previous Entry

Next Entry

[Back to my 'Brad and Anna UK and Europe 2016' blog](#)