



# Press Kit

Danube Tower

June 2021

## The Danube Tower

The Danube Tower is one of the internationally renowned landmarks of Vienna, alongside St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Giant Ferris Wheel, and at 252 metres from the bottom to the top, it is the tallest structure in Austria.

Since its opening in 1964, the popular tourist destination has attracted over 420,000 visitors every year. On the indoor and observation decks, visitors have Vienna and surrounding areas at their feet - standing, like the slogan, at the 'top of Vienna'. The Danube Tower offers Viennese, domestic and international tourists a quick and easy view over the metropolis and is an ideal starting point for a visit to Vienna.

A varied gastronomical offer, both on the ground floor and at lofty heights, makes the Danube Tower a popular location for all kinds of events - from corporate events to family celebrations and cosy catch-ups with friends.

## Construction and Development History

The Danube Tower was built in 1964 as a highlight and proud symbol of the Vienna International Garden Show (WIG). The WIG transformed a neglected site on the banks of the Danube into a large and appealing recreational area - the Danube Park, which was dominated by the new tower construction. From the very beginning, the Danube Tower was the centrepiece for visitors to the WIG, offering a spectacular view and a new perspective of the city of Vienna. At the time, the highlight was above all the 170-metre high restaurant, which was constantly rotating.

The leading architect was the Viennese Professor Hannes Lintl. He chose a design language based on television towers found in other cities such as Stuttgart and Toronto. First and foremost, however, the Danube Tower was and is an observation tower, a building for leisure, fun and relaxation. Construction lasted from October 1962 to April 1964 - nearly two years. A total of 3,750 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete and 514 tons of reinforced concrete were used. The official opening was held by the mayor of Vienna, Franz Jonas, on 16 April 1964.

From January 2018 to February 2019 - 55 years after its construction - the Danube tower was rebuilt and made "state of the art". The visitor experience was enhanced with new entertainment options and information screens. In the course of the work, the tower cafe and restaurant were returned to the elegant style and splendour of the 1960s. On the ground floor, the diverse gastronomic offer has also been expanded: The souvenir shop, the Danube Cafe and the Danube Pub with its spacious garden have been open to guests since February 2019. The Danube Tower worked for the reconstruction and renovation work closely with renowned Austrian architect Gregor Eichinger.

## Listed Building

The Danube Tower is one of Vienna's landmarks and has been a listed building since 2001. The 2018 redevelopment therefore took place in close cooperation with the Federal Monuments Office (BOA).

## Technical Specifications

With a total height of 252 metres, the Danube Tower is the tallest structure in Austria. The central floor is at an altitude of 165 metres.

The observation decks are at altitudes of 155 and 150 metres. The diameter at the bottom is 12 metres, with the tower tapering to 6 metres at a height of 160 metres. The foundation has a depth of 8 metres and a diameter of 31 metres - in total, the Danube tower weighs 17,600 tons.

## Danube Tower as a transmitter

The Danube Tower contains steel mast facilities for police radio, and in 1998, VHF transmitters were installed on the top of the tower, through which private radio stations such as Radio Arabella, Radio Orange, 98.3 Superfly and Radio Stephansdom broadcast their programming and are also essential for mobile operators. The Danube Tower was never used as a TV transmitter.

## Visitors

Since it opened in 1964, the Danube Tower has welcomed around 23 million visitors. In recent years, there have been about 420,000 visitors per year, about 50 percent of them from abroad.

## **Express Lifts**

The two lifts carry a maximum of 15 people (including the mandatory lift staff) to the central floor in 40 seconds, travelling at a speed of 6.20 m/s.

In 2010, the lifts were overhauled and developed to meet the latest state of the art in terms of drive and control. Energy savings of more than 40% are achieved through regenerative drives. Since 2018, visitors have been able to watch through viewing windows in the lift roof as they ascend as well as experience a great light show inside the tower on their journey.

## **Tower Restaurant**

At a height of 170 metres is the Tower Restaurant, which is constantly rotating, offering visitors a breath-taking 360-degree view over the metropolis. Guests can forget everyday life for a short while and enjoy a carefree time at the "top of Vienna".

The Danube Tower is all about Austrian cuisine, Austrian wine and Viennese hospitality. Guests can be inspired by the regularly changing seasonal menu and treated to classic delicacies. In the Tower Restaurant, traditional cuisine is interpreted in a modern way, with regional products and wines from areas seen from the Danube Tower.

## **Tower Café**

In the rotating tower cafe at an altitude of 160 metres, guests can enjoy a selection of excellent pastries and coffees, as well as a small menu of warm delicacies.

## **Donaucafé**

Since February 2019, guests are able to extend their visit to the Danube Tower with a walk through the idyllic Danube Park. On the ground floor is the new Danube Cafe offering classic Viennese coffeehouse culture and delicious desserts from the Strudel bar.

## Donaubräu

Also added during the renovation is the Danube Pub including a spacious guest garden on the ground floor of the Danube Tower. With a view of the Danube Park and a specially brewed tower beer, visitors can while away the hours and enjoy the atmosphere of the Danube Tower in the light and airy hall, which resembles a large pavilion. The unique artworks by Nicola Verlato, an Italian-American surrealist artist, are a real visual highlight. His works are backlit on the ceiling of the pavilion and give visitors the feeling of being on "top of Vienna", even when they are at the bottom of the Danube Tower.

## Danube Tower Brunch

Every Saturday, Sunday and on public holidays, a well-known and very popular brunch is held in the Tower Cafe.. This includes an extensive buffet. Booking is recommended as the brunch is often fully booked weeks in advance.

## Strollers, dogs, wheelchair

For safety reasons, prams may not be used in the express lifts. However, there is a designated parking area in the entry foyer.

Unfortunately, official regulation states that dogs are not allowed. (Apart from therapy dogs)

Due to legal requirements, only one wheelchair user may be carried to the observation deck per lift journey. The stairs that lead from the observation deck to the upper areas of the tower, such as the restaurant and the coffee house, must not be used with wheelchairs. In total, a maximum of three wheelchair users may be present - this is a fire/police decision.

## Getting here/access

**Public transport:** Easily accessible by public transport (Wiener Linien) the Danube Tower can either be reached by underground line U1 (station "VIC (Vienna International Center/Kaisermühlen" or "Alte Donau") or with subway line U6 (station "Neue Donau"). Visitors can then change to bus line 20A (to station "Donauturm") or use the Danube Tower shuttle.

**Danube Tower shuttle:** Since April 2019, an emission-neutral electric bus brings guests arriving by public transport free of charge from the underground stations "U1 Alte Donau" and "U6 Neue Donau" to the Danube Tower within five minutes.

**Sight Seeing Bus:** The Vienna Sightseeing Hop On Hop Off bus (blue line tour) and the Big Bus Hop On Hop Off bus (red line tour) stop at the Danube Tower.

**Bicycle:** Riding to the Danube Tower takes you through the sprawling Danube Park. At the parking lot in front of the Danube tower there are numerous bicycle parking spaces.

## Press / Corporate contact

BLAGUSS Group  
Claudia Pich, company spokeswoman  
T: +43 (1) 50 655-1102  
M: +43 (0) 664 884 60 770  
cpich@blaguss.com

External Press Office ikp Wien GmbH  
Daniela Gissing  
T: +43 (1) 524 77 90-18  
donauturm@ikp.at

## Customer information & reservation

Donauturm Aussichtsturm- und  
Restaurantbetriebsgesellschaft  
Tel: +43 (1) 263 35 72  
E-Mail: [reservierungen@donauturm.at](mailto:reservierungen@donauturm.at)  
[www.donauturm.at](http://www.donauturm.at)